Bombay Gazette.

PUBLISHED THRICE A WEEK, ON EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY, MORNING.

PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER :—52 RUPEES PER ANNUM :—OR, IF PAID IN ADVANCE, 48 RUPEES PER ANNUM.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in Malice."

Vol. LI. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1840. No. 3,151.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—The fine Ship "MAGISTRATE," 518 Tons, A. P. ALLEN, H. C. S. Commander, has good accommodations for Passengers, carries a Surgeon, has room for a few tons of broken Stowage or light goods and will have quick dispatch. For particulars enquire at the Office of Messrs. H. F. OWEN & Co. or of the Captain on board.—Bombay, 22nd April 1840.

FOR PASSAGE TO CLYDE, The fast sailing Teak Barque EMERALD ISLE, 580 Tons, W. C. F. MCNEALE, H. C. S. Commander, to sail about 25th Inst., she has excellent poop accommodation. Apply to the Commander or to

GIBB, MILLER AND Co.

Bombay, 22nd April 1840.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER, The Teak built Ship "BAROSSA," 729 Tons measurement, Captain JOHN AUSTIN, Commander. For particulars, apply to

FRITH AND Co.

FREIGHT FOR MANILLA AND MACAO.—The Portuguese Bark "UNIAM," (formerly the "MAHOMEDEE,") will sail about the end of this month. For Freight apply to Captain REMENIO, at the Office of SIR ROGER DE FARIA.—Bombay, 22d April 1840.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

A Packet for the reception of Letters for Singapore and China will be kept open at the GENERAL POST OFFICE until 3 o'clock P. M. on Saturday the 25th Instant, for dispatch by the Honorable Company's Steam Vessel "*Atalanta*." The Commander of that Vessel if detained on her passage has received instructions to forward on the packet for China from Singapore.

Should any unforeseen delay in the departure hence of the "*Atalanta*," occur, due notice will be given.

E. E. ELLIOT,
Post Master General.

Bombay, Genl. Post Office, 21st April 1840.

NOTICE.

THE Passengers proceeding to Suez by the Hon'ble Company's Steam Vessel "*Zenobia*," on the 30th instant, are requested to attend on board, themselves, or depute some persons on their behalf, to witness the allotment of the Cabin accommodations, to-morrow afternoon at 1 o'clock.

By Order,

FRED. G. BONE,
For Assist. Supt. I. N.

Supt. Office, Bombay, 21st April 1840.

SUPREME COURT.

ECCLESIASTICAL SIDE,

In the matter of the last will and Testament of GREGORY JOHANNES *late of Bombay Armenian Inhabitant deceased.*

HORRENJAHN GREGORY JOHANNES, *Petitioner.*

APPLICATION having been made to the Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay, that Probate of the last Will and Testament of the abovenamed deceased, may be granted to the Petitioner abovenamed. All persons concerned therein are hereby apprized thereof.—Dated this 20th April 1840.

H. A. WOODHOUSE,
Petitioner's Proctor.

NOTICE.

MR. MALVERY (late Bookseller) begs to intimate that owing to ill health, he has been obliged to surrender the management of his affairs into the hands of Messieurs NATHANIEL SPENCER and FREDERICK HUTCHINSON as Trustees for his wife and children. All persons therefore who are indebted to Mr. MALVERY as Bookseller or otherwise, are requested forthwith to pay their debts to the said Messrs. SPENCER and HUTCHINSON, who are legally authorized o receive the same, and to adjust all accounts connecte l with his said trade.—oDated this 7th day of April, 1840.

PROSPECTUS

OF

A NEW JOURNAL,

TO BE STYLED

"THE BOMBAY HERALD."

IT has been often said, that more than three papers cannot subsist in Bombay, and this opinion draws assurance from the several successive abortive attempts which have lately been made to institute a fourth journal. The PROPRIETORS of the HERALD are, however, impressed with the notion that where there is room for three, there can be room for four, and have accordingly determined, on the "*si-viam-non-inveniam-faciam*" principle, to issue their paper on the first Tuesday of next month.

The Proprietors hope for every indulgence from the public, and they will endeavour to merit a due share of support and patronage.

The HERALD will have its pages executed in a superior style of typography, and every pains, essential to neatness and correctness, will be bestowed on it. The paper will be printed twice a week, and published on the mornings of Tuesday and Friday. A single sheet of closely arranged matter will contain all the information, peculiar to the other journals here, and will, besides, be varied with pieces of original literature, principally on local scenes and topics.

Of what else the HERALD *will* be, it is best to let it speak for itself. The public are, however, assured, that *it* is not to begin and terminate its existence in this brief PROSPECTUS :—every exertion shall be used to make the journal worthy of respect and consideration.

Price Two Rupees per Month.

*** Applications to be made to Mr. E. KEAN, at Mr. VIEGAS' Circulating Library, No. 5, Church-lane, Fort.

Bombay, 10th April 1840.

SALE BY AUCTION.

THIS day, Wednesday, the 22d Inst., Messrs. ROBERT FRITH AND Co., will sell by Public Auction at their Rooms, the following assortment of Goods.—An Invoice of Glassware comprising Glass and Brass bottomed Vase Lamps, Spare Shades of sizes ; Tumblers, Champaign Glasses ; Medical Measures, Mortars, Pestles, Funnels, Salt Cellars, Pickle Jars, a small assortment of real Japan ware, consisting of Oval and Square Trays, Bird Cages, Basins, Cheeroot Cases and Snuff Boxes ; Flutes and Flageolets, 2 Time Pieces, some fine marble slabs ; A few articles of Silver ware, Damask Towelling, Gun Caps, and Wadding, Superfine Twill, Leather Gloves, Books, &c. &c.

AT 1 P. M. a Steady strong Buggy Horse, after which a few dozen pints of superior Sherry.

MESSRS. ROBERT FRITH AND CO., have received for Sale on Commission the following articles :

Round Bridles of the best London finish by "*Adams*" ; Two double barrelled Guns in cases complete, and of the first workmanship, makers "*Smith and Hammond.*"

FOR SALE.—The beautifully Illustrated Khoran bound in Cloth, for Prayer, belonging to the late Khan of Khilat, Rupees 250.

Apply to Messrs. ROBERT FRITH & Co.

FOR SALE on Commission, a very neat London made Lathe with Tools complete, Price Rs. 150.

Apply to Messrs. ROBERT FRITH & Co.

MESSRS. ROBERT FRITH AND Co. have received for Sale, a very fine toned Organ playing 30 tunes, and an Overture, Price Rupees 200.

FOR SALE.—A second Hand Europe Buggy in good condition with a Grey Arab Horse, 5 years old, sound and quiet in Harness, the property of a Gentleman proceeding to Europe. Price moderate.—For particulars apply to RUSTOMJEE NOWROJEE, Cabinet Maker, Meadow Street, 22d April 1840.

THE SIXTY SIXTH MADRAS GOVERNMENT LOTTERY.

THE holders of undrawn Tickets in the First Class of the above Lottery are requested to forward their Tickets to WITHULDASS BHOYCHUND AND Co. opposite to the General Post Office for renewal in the Second Class with the following amounts without delay.

For renewing a whole Ticket	Rupees 62	each.
Ditto ditto a Half	ditto	ditto	31¼ ditto.
Ditto ditto a Quarter	ditto	ditto	15½ ditto.

If the Cash is not received with the Tickets in advance, the charge will be more.

The renewals will cease at Madras on the 3rd June 1840, and the drawing of the 2d Class will commence on the 5th of the same month. W. B. and Co. will therefore receive Tickets for renewal in Bombay till the 24th day of May 1840, and not after that date.—Bombay, 22nd April 1840.

SALE BY AUCTION.

SMITH & CO. will on Thursday the 23rd instant, at their Rooms, expose for Sale by Public Auction, part of a rich invoice comprising sets of beautiful Ladies Work Tables, Rosewood, and of Geneva manufacture, with work receivers ; A Rosewood Card Table, Mahogany Work Tables ; A number of Beautiful Flower Vases ; Sets of Rosewood and Mahogany Teapoys ; An Assortment of Mirrors ; Strings of Beads, Bead Necklaces, several Clocks in gilt frame, Double Barrelled Guns with Case complete; Gun waddings and Percussion Caps, Grey and white Madapolum Long Cloth Chintz, Ginghams, Book Muslin Gauze, Doria, few Hogsheads of Beer, Bottle Corks, and numerous other articles.

AT NOON—Any other Carriage or Horses, that may offer.—Bombay, 22d April 1840.

ON SALE with Messrs. SMITH & Co. an excellent Liverpool built Phaeton, second hand, strongly built with shafts and pole complete.

An early application is required.

ALSO.

A new and superior set of Buggy Harness, moderate price.

Likewise,—A few Double Barrelled Guns by different makers :—A Double Barrelled piece by *Blisset*, with two sets of barrells, Rifle and Fowling, and in fine trim :—An excellent Rifle by *Parker* well done up.

ORNAMENTAL VASES, Children's Tea Sets, and a variety of very handsome *Bijouterie*.—22d April 1840.

CURSETJEE BURJORJEE has for Sale in his rooms, in Hummum Street, No. 13, as follows—French Wines by the well known house of Balguerie and Co. in one dozen cases, consisting of St. Julien, St. Estephi, Sauterne, and Hautbrion at Rs. 12 per dozen ; Burgundy at Rs. 20 per dozen.

Light Brown Stout at Rs. 7 per dozen.

A few dozen American Champaigne Cider, in Champaigne bottles in one dozen cases.

Alsop and Bass's Pale Ale, well up in bottle at Rs. 6 per dozen.

Also Dinner sets of various colours and patterns.

Bombay, 22nd April 1840.

FOR SALE.—Elegant Pier Glasses of fine British Plates and handsome burnished gold frames of different sizes are for sale at CURSETJEE BURJORJEES, in Hummum Street, No. 13.—Bombay, 22d April 1840.

FOR SALE, at the Gazette Office ;

Respondentia Bonds, each	Rs.	1
Ship's Articles	,,	1
Policies of Insurance	,,	1
Bills of Exchange, per set	Ans.	8
Interest Bonds	,,	8
Bills of Lading	,,	8
Powers of Attorney, each	,,	8

☞ All orders for Letter-Press, and Copper-Plate Printing, will be punctually attended.—Bombay, 22nd April 1840.

TENNANT'S PALE ALE.

ON Friday the 24th Instant, at 10 o'clock, there will be sold, by Public Auction, without reserve to the highest Bidders, in lots of Three Hhds. each, at a Godown next to the Office of Messrs. FORBES and Co., a quantity of the above Ale, imported last month.—Bombay, 22d April 1840.

TO be had at the Godowns of the under signed, Superior Sherry in wood from the House of *Apalatagui and Co.* of Xeres.

In Butts at	Rs.	550
Hhds at	,,	300
Quarter Casks	,,	150
In Quart Bottles per doz.	,,	15

EDMOND, BIBBY AND Co.

Rampart Row, 22nd April 1840.

NOTICE.

FOR SALE.—At this Office, THE CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY for the present year, with the ARMY, CIVIL, AND INDIAN NAVY LISTS, EUROPEAN INHABITANTS, corrected to the latest possible date, and the list of H. H. the NIZAM'S ARMY,—It likewise contains regulations relating to the three services and to the Mercantile Community, with a variety of useful Tables and other matter, printed on English Paper in new Types. As only a limited number of copies is struck off, gentlemen desirous of having the CALENDAR and DIRECTORY are requested to make early applications. MARRYATT'S CODE OF SIGNALS of the latest Edition now in the Press, will form a seperate Book, and delivered to Subscribers in a few days.

Bombay Gazette Office, 22nd April 1840.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE

Is hereby given, that it is the intention of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, to despatch a Steamer from Bombay, with a Mail for Suez, on Thursday the 30th of April next.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
E. M. WOOD, Lt. Col. Secy. to Govt.

Bombay Castle, 18th March 1840.

NOTIFICATION.

With reference to the Notification issued from this Department under date the 13th ultimo, the attention of the public is particularly called to the circumstance, that an earlier date than is usual, (vizt., the 23rd of May) has been fixed on, for the despatch of the Steamer with the Mail for June next.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy. to Govt.*

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE FAMILY OF THE LATE CAPTAIN WHIFFEN.

Amount formerly Subscribed Rupees 5278

	Rs.		
Henry Wilson Reeves.	30	F. W. Watkins Assistant Surgeon	25
W. W. Cargill	20	R. McKim	10
W. Smyttan	20	H. Brown C. S.	30
Clerks and Writers in Military Board Office	50	H. Conolly	25
		J. McAdam	40
		Captain Hunter	10
Mrs. Rouget	10	Dr. Barrington	10
Mr. Gardner	5	Col. W. D. Robertson	15
Mrs. Mackenzie	10	Captain R. Warden	30
Mrs. Ward	10	A. Malet	25

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

MR. EDITOR,—Can you inform your readers how it has happened that all the principal resolutions moved at the (so called) public Meeting held on Monday last at the Town Hall, to congratulate our dearly beloved Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria on her union with Prince Albert of Saxe Gotha were seconded by natives of this place, to the exclusion of British born subjects? What right may I ask have such as they to the honor thus conceded to them, and which seems to have been *studiously* withheld from better and more loyal subjects than they can dare to call themselves?

Look back to the Dog Riots of 1832. How was their loyalty on that occasion displayed? By open hostility to the Government. What was their conduct in May last on the conversion of two Parsee youths to the Christian faith? Open defiance of the laws of the land and contempt for the dignity of the Justice seat. What then is the true value of the lip-Loyalty of such men, who never *miss* an opportunity of proving themselves in the highest degree, obnoxious to British rule? Is it only to such men as these that our gracious Queen will have to look for success in the hour of danger to her throne? Thank God! No! She will then look for the services of the descendants of those in whom her forefathers have ever trusted without once being betrayed. She will have BRITISH HEARTS OF OAK to trust to, in that day, ready to drain the last drop of their blood in the service of their Sovereign, men more lavish of their heart's blood than a whole realm of Parsees would be of coined rupees. It is from the spurned of the Town Hall on Monday last ; from those who were consi-

dered as nothing in comparison with a few greasy native merchants, that the Crown of England expects good and *faithful* service,—and I will make bold to say that, with the single exception of the concocter of the late Anti-Conversion petition, not another British born subject on this Island, would barter this their birthright for all the honors to be conferred by a Parsee Punchayet—even if it were a STATUE—and that too of GOLD!!!!!!

Your obedient servant,
AN ENGLISHMAN.

21st April, 1840.

BONUS TO LIEUTENANT COLONELS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

SIR,—I have heard it remarked that in a former letter, I certainly went too far in asserting that the ingenious originators of the Bonus scheme, had the merit of having proposed a purchase system that it could not be shown would benefit any individuals in any given case: for that it is most evident that the Lieutenant Colonels purchased out and the Agents must benefit in every given case. But it is obvious that my remark was intended to apply to the *subscribers* to this purchase fund. That Lieutenant Colonels and Agents would benefit by this scheme, is lamentably certain; and it appears to me equally certain that none of the subscribers would in the long run benefit by it. Thus all the funds are to be raised by one numerous class, to be pocketed and appropriated by another composed of a few individuals. This is reversing the usual order of things in which individuals are made to contribute in proportion to the advantage to be derived.

But setting aside the question of acceleration of promotion, and viewing the proposed scheme as one that will give the subscribers the advantage of looking forward to a sum of money to be added to their property, to increase their retiring income, I observe, let those who think it will be an advantage, subscribe, and let subscribers only have the advantage such as it may be, of the Bonus: but let not the supporters of the scheme attempt the monstrous absurdity of making those subscribers who do not think that the proposed fund can benefit them, or who have no intention of availing themselves of its benefits. And let those who now think how advantageous it would be to receive a Bonus of Rupees 20,000 some twenty or thirty years hence, consider what they will be obliged to pay for this in the course of their service, before their rank will entitle them to obtain it. Let them calculate the interest and compound interest of the sums to be subscribed. Let them think of the present inconvenience which the frequent payments of subscriptions will subject them to; and if their pecuniary means will avert any present inconvenience, let them consider whether they cannot purchase terms at least as advantageous from some Insurance Company. In resorting to an Insurance Company, the individual will at least have the advantage of suiting his own convenience, inclination and circumstances; which would alone make it preferable in the view of a

BREVET CAPTAIN.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

DEATHS.

At Colaba, on the morning of Friday the 19th instant, after an illness of three days, Mrs. Captain M. W. Tucker, in the 62nd year of her age. This venerable lady, whose character, from the domesticated and unobtrusive nature of her habits, was not very generally known, or estimated, in a degree commensurate with its worth, beyond the circle of her more immediate relatives and friends, has left behind her an aged husband to whom, through the journey of life she was an affectionate, economical companion; and a host of humble dependents that will ever lament the loss of one whose charity, well regulated, without being indiscriminate, exhibited the excellent pattern of a liberal, but frugal mistress of a family. Mrs. Tucker may be said from her long residence in Bombay to have belonged to the past generation, of whom and their histories she had always at command a large fund of anecdotical reminiscences.

At Mahim, on Monday the 13th instant, Mrs. Maria Pereira, aged 22 years, Wife of Mr. S. Pereira after few days illness, leaving two children to deplore her irreparable loss.

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.

April 20.—Surgeon Thos. Drever, Bengal Establishment from Bengal.
Do. do.—Doctor Loinsworth, from Scinde.
Do. 17th—Lieut. Colonel J. G. Griffith, Commandant of Artillery from Mahabulishwar.
Do. do.—Captain J. Grant, Artillery from Ahmednuggur.

DEPARTURES.

April 20th.—Captain T. M. B. Turner, Engineers to Ahmednuggur.
Do. do.—Ensign Phayre, 21st Regiment to Tannah.
Do. 21st.—Major J. Lloyd, Artillery to Kurrachie.
Do. do.—Lieut. and Adjutant H. W. Evans, 9th Regt. N. I. Ahmedabad.
Do. do.—Ensign F. F. Strachey, 9th Regt. N. I. to Ahmedabad.
Do. do,—Ensign W. Brassey, 23rd Regt. N. I. to Sukker.

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.—April 19th.—The E. I. C. Steamer Hugh Lindsay, Lieut. T. Frushard, Commanding from Zyghur 17th Instant.

Do. 20th.—Barque Barrosa, John Austin Master, from Sydney N. S. Wales 13th January.

DEPARTURES.—April 18th.—Ship Drongan, H. Grant Master, to Karrack.

Passengers—Lieut. Jopp, Lieut. Thacker, Commissioned Officers 6, Rank and file 237, Women 13, 6 children, 23 Public Followers, 8 Private Do., 1 Horsekeeper and two Warrant officers.

Do.—do.—The E. I. C. Schooner Emily, H. Blower, Commanding, to Karrack.

SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

H. M. Ship Childers.

E I. C. VESSELS.—Steamers Semiramis, Hugh Lindsay, Zenobia, Atalanta, Berenice, and Iron Steamer Planet.

Ceylon Govt. Steamer Seaforth, The E I. C. Receiving Ship Hastings; Brig Taptee, Schooner, Constance, Cutter Margaret.

MERCHANT VESSELS.—Benares, Caudry, Hydroos, Futtay Rahimon, Cornwallis, Adelaide, Dadaloy, Futtay Hulbarry, Hamudy, Fort William, Lady East, Lancaster, Hydroose, Buckinghamshire, Ganges, Colonel Newall, City of Poonah, Berkshire, Hamoody, Lord Castle, Emerald Isle, Parland, Mount Stewart, Elphinstone, Mahomedee, Magistrate, Lady Rowena, Neptune, Parkfield, Mary, Abbotsford, Clifton Sumed Ammy, Sultana, Dowlutpursad, Futtay Moombarruck, Cauderbux Khain Moombarruck, Gondolier, Kirkman Finlay, Orestes, Regular, Rangoon, Lady Feversham, Medora, Mor. Mahamudy, Doulut Savoy, Mayaram Dayaram, Wild Irish Girl, Resolution, Faize Allum, and Barrosa.

PORTUGUESE.—Bark Marquis of Hastings, and Brig Esperanca.

FRENCH.—Barque Augustus, and Ship Le George Cuvier.

VESSELS EXPECTED TO SAIL.

Vessels.	Agents.	Destination.	To Sail.
A Steamer.....	Spt. I. Navy.	Suez.. ..	30th April.
Buckinghamshire	D. & M. Pestonjee.....	London ..	1st April.
Lady East... ..	J. Nusserwanjee and Co...	London ..	
Ganges.....	Skinner and Co.	London ..	Dispatch.
Berkshire..	Remington&Co.	London ..	
Lancaster.....	Higginson and Cardwell	Liverpool.	Dispatch.
City of Poona	Pollexfen, Milne and Co.....	Liverpool..	1st April.
M.S. Elphinstone	Skinner & Co..	Singapore.	
Sir W. Wallace.	Do. . ..		
Fort William..	J Jeejeebhoy..		
Emerald Isle..	Gibb Miller & Co.....		
Lady Rowena..	Dirom Carter and Co.. ..		
Marquis of Hastings.... ..	J. Jeejeebhoy..	Macao.. ..	Quick desp
Lady Feversham	Dirom Carter & Co..		

VESSELS EXPECTED.

Vessels.	Agents.	From.	To Sail.
*Steamer Cleopatra.... ..	Supt. Indian Navy	London.. ..	22d Nov.
Sesostris	Supt. I. N	London ..	
Abel Gower..	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	in Dec.
*Inglis..	B.&A. Hormusjee.	London ..	
*Catherine....	Forbes & Co	London ..	22d Nov.
*Earl Durham	Grey & Co.....	London ..	30th Dec.
Ann.....	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	11th Jan.
Euphrates	.....	London ..	30th Jan.
Thetis.....	.....	London ..	25th Jan.
Tartar.....	.....	London ..	
Juverna..	.....	London ..	
Lord W. Bentinck.... ..	.....	London ..	
Justina.... ..	.....	London ..	25th Jan.
Queen Victoria	.....	London ..	
Competent....	.....	Liverpool	
Caledona	.....	Liverpool	
John Knox, ..	....	Liverpool	14th Nov.
*Shannon.. ..	P. Miline & Co..	Liverpool	11th Oct.
*Tinawarra.. ..	.....	Liverpool	7th Dec.
*W. Sharples..	H. & Cardwell..	Liverpool	20th Dec.
Barbara.....	R. S. & Co.. ..	Liverpool	12th Dec.
Cestrina..	Edmond Bibby&C	Liverpool	18th Dec.
Majestic..	George S. King.	Liverpool	2dweekJa
Wilson	W. Nicol & Co..	Liverpool	31st Dec
Wm. Turner..	P. Milne & Co	Liverpool	15eh Jan.
*Eleanor Lancaster.... ..	MacVicar B. Co	Liverpool	19th Nov.
Crown.....	Dirom Carter&Co	Do.. ..	28th Jan.
*Bucephalus,..	W. Nicol & Co..	Clyde.. ..	
Maria....	MacVicar B.&Co.	Do.. ..	20th Dec.
British King...	Skinner & Co. ..	Do.. ..	
Monarch	.....	Do.. ..	
Hindoostan ..	.....	Do.. ..	
Quinten Leech	.....	Do.. ..	
Mary Mitchelson....	Foster & Co....	Llanelly ..	30th Nov.
Queen.....	.....	Do.. ..	23d Sept.
Salacia.... ..	Dirom, Carter&Co	Do.. ..	
Pacquet d'Havana..	.....	Bordeaux	5th Aug.
Emilia..	T. Jefferies& Co.	Bordeaux	4th June.
Bolivar..	.....	Rio.... ..	

* Have sailed, by the latest accounts.

TIME OF HIGH WATER.

APRIL 1840.	MORN. H. M.	AFT. H. M.
22nd Wednesday.....	2 5	2 22
23rd Thursday	2 42	3 5

Latest advices Received.

From *London*..... 4TH MARCH.
,, *Paris*..... 6TH Do.

DIARY OF THE WEEK.

April 22—Wednesday.
23—Thursday.—St. George.
24—Friday.—A great Fire broke out at Surat about 19,000 Houses burnt and many Lives lost 1837.
25—Saturday.—St. Mark.—Duchess of Gloucester born, 1776.—Almora taken by the English. 1815.—Moon Last Quarter.
26—Sunday.—1st Sunday after Easter.—Low Sunday.
27—Monday.
28—Tuesday.

THE GAZETTE.

Wednesday, April 22, 1840.

THE *Hugh Lindsay* in a day or two steams out, we hear for the mouth of the Indus with the Iron Steamer Planet in tow.

MR. PHILLIPS, Prothonotary of the Supreme Court has obtained leave of absence, and will vacate his situation in the course of a day or two. We have not heard, as yet, who is likely to be his successor. There will then be no fewer than three acting appointments in the Court, namely those of Advocate General, Clerk of the Crown, and that which by the temporary secession of its present holder has given birth to this paragraph.

BY extracts from the Calcutta papers and *Maulmain Chronicle* we learn the death of Dr. Helfer, an eminent naturalist, who had been employed by Government, with much benefit to science, in the Burman Empire and the Andaman Islands. At one of these latter, he was assaulted upon landing by a body of the savage natives, and mortally wounded in the head by an arrow, while attempting to swim off to his Vessel.

THE *Agra Ukhbar* of the 11th instant states upon the authority of a correspondent, that dispatches, from the Court of Tehran and the Russian Envoy had lately passed through Herat for Dost Mahomed, enjoining that Chieftain to compromise matters as he best could, with the English Government, as he need not expect any assistance from either Russia or Persia.

THE Bengal Military Fund has sustained a loss to the amount of more than three lacs of Rupees, by a system of embezzlement ingeniously prosecuted for the last 25 years by its late Secretary, Mr. Martindell, who has just died insolvent. During this long period he regularly omitted entries of all drafts or hoondies, which were negotiated through his own agency, and, (receipts being granted to the remitting parties) appropriated to his own use. This extensive peculation, so successfully committed, argues a laxness of supervision which should afford a serious lesson to all funds similarly constituted, and put their Directors upon their guard against the possibility of frauds being perpetrated upon the funds of the Institutions over which they preside, that might materially affect their stability.

A Cochin-Chinese Man of War now constitutes the principal Lion of the City of Palaces—She is manned by a Mandarin, 2 Captains, 108 men; carries 30 twelve pounders, several swivels, and a number of English muskets.—She has also on board a cargo of copper, tin, cinnamon and dollars, the main object of her visit to Calcutta being to purchase a Steamer for the Cochin-Chinese Government.—One accustomed to the stern etiquette of the quarter decks of our "*Hearts of Oak*" would be somewhat surprised as well as shocked, at the sight of the crew of this man of war mustered every evening at divisions, with one Captain beating a big drum, another sounding a huge gong, and the whole forming a sort of castanet with the discordant music of two round sticks.—They represent the natives of China as favorable to the importation of opium, notwithstanding the determined opposition of Commissioner LIN.

IN publishing the letters of a BREVET CAPTAIN to-day upon the BONUS TO LIEUTENANT COLONELS, we must apologize for the commission of a very grave erratum in his communication of the 6th Instant. The error which was one also of omission should have stood thus, as we have since ascertained by a reference to our file and his manuscript. "It follows then that instead of thirty steps purchased for the whole army, one sixth of thirty steps would be purchased for Rupees 20,867 per Regiment, or Rs. 6,26,010 for the whole army; and thirty steps *at this rate* would be purchased for Rs 1,25,202. per Regiment, or Rs. 37,56,060 for the whole army." We most sincerely thank our correspondent for the high, but just, tribute that he pays to our predecessor's memory; whose love of truth, generosity and independence of spirit fully merit all that he has said.—If it may be permitted for us to make any pledge under such circumstances, we trust to convince a Brevet Captain and all other friends of the *Gazette* that Mr. McCallum's mantle has not descended upon unworthy shoulders.

ON Sunday last about half past eight in the evening, a Parsee called at the house of a Hindoo of the WEAVER Caste, living in the Market, and informed him that his Bungalow situated at Candewady was on fire. The person who is a man of considerable wealth immediately left his dwelling house in company of the Parsee, to ascertain the truth of the report. On reaching the place no sign of smoke or flame appearing, he reproached the Parsee with having given him false information. An altercation, conducted in the usual style of native quarrels, ensued, which ended in his being attacked by several Parsees apparently accomplices of the other, who, after giving him a most cruel beating, robbed the Hindoo of Jewellery which he wore upon his person, to the amount of 700 Rupees. During the whole time occupied by the assault and robbery, no police were seen, although the noise with which they must have been attended, should naturally have brought some of them to the spot. We are informed however, that this proceeds from the distribution of the Police Force allowing of no Chowkee in that neighbourhood; a circumstance which renders robberies of a similar description by no means unusual. The knowledge of the fact also gives a degree of hardihood to the perpetrators of such offences, that can only be checked by an enquiry into the case, and improved arrangements of the Force at his disposal by the Superintendant of Police.

THE *Atalanta*, is at present taking on board stores and provisions for the China expedition. She is expected to start by next Sunday at the farthest, under command of Captain Rogers, who having been retained some time on the establishment of the Indian Navy as a Supernumerary Commander, has been acting as assistant to the Superintendent, and is now specially appointed to this service. We have heard very indistinct murmurings against the justice and propriety of this appointment, on the score of Captain Rogers having retired from the service, which, we think, to say the least of them, untenable.

Government in selecting an officer of his well known experience, acquaintance with naval discipline, and the method of practically carrying on his duty, which has acquired him the esteem and regard of all whom he has commanded, pay a proper compliment to these essential qualifications, which the individual, possessed of a becoming zeal for the service in which he has carved his way to rank and distinction, could not decently decline, without sacrificing an opportunity of acquiring additional professional honours to a love of his own ease, upon the handsome competency granted by the Court of Directors to retiring officers. The Indian Navy, instead of repining at the selection thus made should generously rejoice with a feeling of *esprit de corps*, that Government is not blind to the merits of their officers; and the Junior ranks console themselves with the reflection that a time may yet come when the accumulated fruits of conduct in their present grade, similar to that of Captain Rogers, will ensure them, when promoted, the same flattering testimonial, as he has now, in the hour of emergency, received.

SOME time since various Pamphlets were written and many opinions broached on the best means of ameliorating the condition of the Native Ryots. It has occurred to us that any simple remedy might be applied with effect and ease by the Government of India, to relieve some of their burthens. Independent of the taxes which are certainly most *onerous* and *grievous*, the Ryot is almost always under the thumb of a *Sett* or money lender. If he requires seed for his ground he must go to his Sett; again if he has children he must get them married and to so ridiculous a pitch are such expences carried, that whole families, are beggared by the sums borrowed for such occasions at most exorbitant and ruinous interest. Now if in large cities in the interior Government was to institute *Loan* Banks where money in small sums might be procured at light Interest on sufficient security, "*for strictly agricultural purposes*," it would relieve numbers of respectable Ryots who now groan under the rapacity of the Setts.

"*These petty Tyrants of their fields.*"

Marwarries realize fortunes almost wherever they go by such proceedings, and any one conversant with the processes of Mofussil Civil causes will recognize the truth of these observations. It may be said it would be lowering the dignity of Government by making it a party to such transactions; we think not. A *wise and* paternal government is ever anxious for the prosperity of its subjects. Wherefore then should it not relieve the humblest class if even at a slight expence of dignity? Assistant Collectors or Civil Surgeons might supervise such establishments, and they might be called Government Agricultural Loan Banks. Very few rupees would be required by each individual, and almost all families have trinkets and ornaments which now find their way as pledges to Marwarries and as Campbell says,

"Depart like Hamet never to return."

By such a measure as this the Ryot would be able to pay his way and would feel confidence and independence while government would get a good rate of interest for its money, and the poor trembling peasant who now squats down at the Marwarry's shop door for a rupee to buy bread for his starving family, would be able to shoulder him off the crown of the causeway. These remarks are just thrown out as hints to be ever proved by abler political economists; but it is our intention to return seriously to the subject of the state of the agricultural population of India at an early period.

WE borrow from our cotemporary of the *Courier*, an article upon the late Meeting at the Town Hall, the resolutions which were carried, and the addresses to be forwarded to her Majesty and Her Consort. AN ENGLISHMAN, we think, displays a great degree of unnecessary irritation at the fact of all the resolutions having been seconded by Native Gentlemen, as nothing could have been more easy than for any individual, who wished to make so public a display of his loyalty, to have risen immediately after the making of the motion. In short had even an opposite feeling led any one to propose amendments to the addresses, the Chairman would have been bound to take the sense of the meeting upon the subject, although it was notoriously convened merely for the purpose of congratulation, in the mode of expressing which there could be but little room for dispute. The circumstance of which our correspondent complains, did certainly strike us as extraordinary; but so far from blaming the Native Gentlemen for the prominent part which they assumed, we were disposed to impute a very supine indifference, to the European portion of the meeting; in thus allowing themselves to be kept in the back ground.

BOMBAY ADDRESSES.

Yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock a most respectable meeting of the Inhabitants of Bombay, assembled at the Town Hall.

THE HIGH SHERIFF IN THE CHAIR.

(G. F. HUGHES ESQ.)

The HIGH SHERIFF explained the object of the meeting. He had called it, agreeable to a requisition most respectably signed, which had been handed to him, for the purpose of preparing and adopting congratulatory addresses to Her most gracious MAJESTY the QUEEN, and Her Illustrious CONSORT, on the occasion of their marriage.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, Sir J. W. AWDRY then rose and addressed the meeting. The object of their assembling had already been explained by the Chairman. Any difference on such an occasion was impossible—for however, Her Majesty's subjects might disagree in opinions on legitimate points of political discussion, there was not one who would hesitate to congratulate our Sovereign on Her happy union, fraught as it was

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with happiness to Herself, and holding out such promises of future felicity to the Empire. He there had an address prepared for the occasion which as embodying all that he could say, he should read to the meeting, with the hope of its receiving their sanction. He then read the address as follows.

TO HER MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,

Victoria, by the Grace of God,

OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, QUEEN,

DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, &C.

THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF BOMBAY,

convened in Public Meeting by the High Sheriff.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN.

We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, beg your acceptance of our heartfelt congratulations on your Majesty's Auspicious Union, with his Royal Highness THE PRINCE ALBERT of Saxe Coburg Gotha —We hence look for the continuance of that illustrious Line, whose dominion over the British Empire, has, by the Divine blessing, been instrumental to the greatest amount of Civil and Religious liberty, of Intellectual Advancement; and (notwithstanding some serious calamities), of Prosperity, public and private, ever enjoyed for so long a continuous period, by so large a portion of mankind.—We especially congratulate your Majesty, on the inestimable blessing, that without any departure from the Public Principles, ever regarded in the Alliances of your Royal House, free scope has been afforded, to those domestic Affections, which are mainly subsidiary to the Happiness of Married life, and to the virtues which your high example may promote among your subjects.

That to your Majesty, to your Majesty's Royal Consort, and to your people, both at home and abroad these blessings may, by a gracious Provideuce, be continued and enhanced, is the hearty prayer of your Majesty's loyal and affectionate subjects.

FRAMJEE COWASJEE Esq. then rose and seconded the address as expressing the sentiments of the meeting.

The HIGH SHERIFF then put the Question of its adoption, which was agreed to, *nem con.*

The RIGHT REVEREND the LORD BISHOP of BOMBAY next addressed the Meeting. He had the honour to present to their attention an address to Her Majesty's Illustrious Consort, which, as it required no preface he should at once read and propose that it be adopted.

TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

Albert, Francis, Augustus, Charles Emmanuel,

PRINCE OF SAXE COBURG GOTHA,

KNIGHT OF THE MOST NOBLE ORDER OF THE GARTER, FIELD MARSHALL &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

We, the Inhabitants of Bombay, hasten to offer to your Royal Highness, together with our beloved Sovereign, our warm congratulations on your auspicious Union.

Sprung from a Race, endeared by Historical Recollections, and public Policy, to the People amongst whom your Royal Highness is called to the most exalted station; connected by so many and so recent family ties, which ensure your Royal Highness' having been brought up in the knowledge of the Character and Institutions of that People, and above all, being the object of the uncontrolled choice of Her, with whom you are to share the holiest domestic duties, Your Royal Highness offers the fairest outward hopes of those blessings to yourselves, and to a Loyal People for the actual attainment of which, we can rely only on that Divine Providence, which has hitherto, so conspicuously favored the Empire under her Majesty's Royal House.

JAGGUNATH SUNKERSETT Esq. "I second with pleasure the address to His Royal Highness."

The CHAIRMAN then put the question which was also carried *nem con.*

The COMMANDANT of the GARRISON (Colonel Valiant) then moved. "That the two addresses, which have been adopted by this meeting, be handed up to the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, with a request that they may be transmitted, to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, for the purpose of being presented in the most suitable manner to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness."

JEMSETJEE JEJEEBHOY Esq. seconded the resolution.

It was proposed to the meeting by the CHAIRMAN and agreed to unanimously.

The ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (J. H. CRAWFORD Esq.) next proposed a resolution "that the Addresses be engrossed on parchment, and lie for signature at the Townhall, until the evening of the 28th instant; and that Mr. Morris be requested to take the necessary measures for procuring this engrossment of the same."

"This resolution which was seconded by MAHOMED AMLI ROGAY Esq. was agreed to.

T. W. HENDERSON Esq. "I move that the thanks of this assembly be given to the High Sheriff for having called the meeting and for his dignified conduct in the chair."

MANOCKJEE CURSETJEE Esq. seconded the resolution which was agreed to unanimously.

The Meeting then separated.

Indian Intelligence.

CALCUTTA.

H. M. SHIP CONWAY.

It will be seen by the following correspondence, that H. M. S. *Conway*, just returned from the Nicobars, has not been very successful in the objects of her visit to those inhospitable Islands, although Captain Bethune has recovered some of the cargo of the *Richard Bell*.

Calcutta, 9th April, 1840.

SIR,—In reference to your letter of the 26th February last, I am directed by the Naval Commander in Chief to General Committee at Calcutta, an extract from a letter this day received from Captain Bethune, of H. M. Ship *Conway*, reporting his return from the Nicobar Islands, by which it will be observed, that he has been unable to discover traces of any recent wrecks, excepting that of the *Richard Bell*, a portion of whose cargo he has succeeded in saving.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM DYER,
Secy. to the Naval Commander in Chief.

WM. LIMOND, ESQ.
Secy. to the Insurance General Committee, Calcutta.

Extract from a letter received from Captain Bethune of her Majesty's Ship Conway, dated the 8th April, 1840, addressed to the Naval Commander in Chief.

"I have the houor to report the return of Her Majesty's Ship under my command from the Nicobar Islands.

"I have not been able to discover traces of any recent wreck but that of the Brig *Richard Bell*, a portion of whose cargo I have saved and have on board.

"Part of a windlass was found near her, which had belonged to some other vessel; but from its state of decay, it must have been lying for years."—*Hurkaru, April* 10.

PESHAWUR.

The following is an extract from a letter just received by us, dated *Peshawur, 22nd March*:—

"The Native Brigade (37 and 48th Regiments N. I.) with 100 dismounted troopers of the 2d Light Cavalry, under Major-General Sir R. Sale, K. C. B, arrived at Koolsa* this-morning. The troops have not experienced any annoyance from the Khyberees in their passage through the Khyber Pass, though it is reported that they are collecting *en masse* to attack the Convoy. The grand Convoy is expected here on the 26th instant, they will halt a couple of days, and then the whole will move *en route* to Jelallabad.

The weather is beginning to wax warm, the crops are well advanced, and promise a full harvest."—*Ibid.*

MR. SPOONER.

We learn from a *Bombay Gazette* just received, that another officer (name not mentioned) is to be tried at Fort George, for an offence connected with the unfortunate affair of the quadruple murder, of which Lieutenant Gibbard was the agent. We trust that the conduct of Mr. Spooner, the Political Superintendent of Sawant Warree, will speedily come under investigation. *Qui facit per alterum facit per se*—Lieutenant Gibbard was Adjutant of the Sawant Warree irregular corps, and, being in command of a detachment at the time, was, it appears, under the immediate orders of the Political Superintendent. The "other officer," alluded to in the remarks of the commander of the forces, whose trial, the Bombay paper says, has been postponed, is probably an officer of Lieutenant Gibbard's detachment; but we must wait patiently for further particulars.—*Ibid.*

THE DEATH OF DOCTOR HELFER.

We deeply regret to announce, that news has been received in town of the death of Dr. Helfer. This enterprising naturalist had, it appears, landed on the Andaman Islands, where he was murdered by the natives; whether in any personal conflict or by being shot at, from an ambuscade, by arrows, which last is well known to be their common practice, we have not yet learnt; but we believe the fact of his death to be undoubted. Mrs. Helfer was left at Rangoon, or Tenasserim, as we understand.—*Englishman, April* 9.

BENGAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of the Agricultural Society was held yesterday morning at the Town Hall, the Honorable Sir Edward Ryan, and subsequently Col. Dunlop, in the chair. Amongst the visitors we noticed Major Eldred Pottinger. The proceedings of the past meeting being confirmed, *seven* new members were proposed, and those who were so at the last meeting were duly elected. Several samples of cotton were upon the table, and a large bale was sent by Col. Skinner from Hansi. The reports of the Cotton Committee upon these samples were read, and their tendency, with respect to that of Hansi, was that it was inferior to the average of American uplands imported into England, but this is not surprising, for, as it has the capital faults of being very carelessly harvested and cleaned, we should assume that its cultivation was not very carefully attended to. For example; do our cultivators known that *topping* cotton, i. e. pinching or cutting of the tops of the shoots, when the plant is near flowering, is, in many countries, considered essential not only to the quantity, but to the *quality* of the cotton? The rationale of the practice is simple; nourishment, which would produce only shoots is sent to the fruit. We think, but are not certain, that *switching* the cotton bushes was, or is, still in use in some parts of the United States. In the French and Spanish Colonies the practice is well known. Some disappointment was expressed on the ground that this, though probably now an acclimated cotton was yet inferior. We think this unfounded. It should be recollected that the process of acclimation is like that of a disease; which is the degeneration to a certain point; and then the recovery up to full health, which is often a lower process than the decline. We see nothing in this to discourage, and we exhort the gallant Col. who sets so praisewosthy an example, and all Cotton speculators, to pick their seed, examine their soils chemically, watch their cultivation, *switch* some of their cotton for a trial, and harvest and clean carefully, paying attention to separating sorts, and picking *from the pod* in the field; and they will yet, we venture to say, be surprised at their own success.

Some small samples of Assam Tea were on the table, which the Secretary had had the goodness to procure from the Assam Company. Of these we thought the Hyson, a capital flavoured tea, and far superior to any of the black tea which fell, into our hands, though one of these was a very good common Souchong. It was announced, that the samples which the Society had requested from Government were on their way down. We congratulate the Assam Society very sincerely on these samples. They are equal, or rather superior, we should say, to the average of what is called 'good tea' at home.

It was stated from the chair that although the ground for the new edifice for the society had not yet been granted by Government, it was fully expected that every thing would be settled before the next meeting. Several communications on the exchange of the products of India with those of Europe were received, and together with one on Flax were referred to their respective committees. A very interesting letter from Mr. Tucker, the spirited Collector of Azimghur, was read, in which that gentleman details his efforts to encourage the planting of trees in his district. and applied for a gold medal to be offered by him to encourage it. This it was not thought, could, in the present state of the Society's funds, be afforded, and it was objected to, moreover, on the ground of precedent; but the Society desirous to mark their sense of Mr. Tucker's very laudable efforts, will, as we understood, place several additional silver medals at his disposal.

A number of presentatious were upon the table, which our space and time will not allow us to notice at length; but which mark the great interest which people in all parts of India are taking in the Society's progress, amongst them were woods from the hills; Pine (Deodar) Walnut, and Oak. Hemps and flax of various sorts, and from different plants. Amongst these we were glad to see the flax of the Urtica from Captain Jenkins and the hemp of the *Moorva* (Sansieviera *Zeylanica*) from Mr. Speed, seeds of valuable melons, grapes, peaches, and the like from Candahar; a Brazilian yam, with many other productions. The meeting was not a very full though a good one. We suppose the close weather makes people a little idle. (?)—*Englishman. April* 10.

* Near Peshawur.

AGRA.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE BEST HISTORY OF THE INDUS EXPEDITION.

A Correspondent suggests that a Subscription purse be raised sor the best History of the Indus Expedition, and we quite go with him as to the value of his proposal. Of late years the achievements of our Indian Army, however, gallantly performed have been but indifferently recorded, indeed since Mr. Prinsep's account of the Marquis of Hastings' Administration which ends with 1823, we have nothing we can call a History of our political or military affairs. The envoy to the Court of Shah Sooja will, we think it probable, give an account of the Cabool Expedition and though a work from one of his high abilities would go far to discourage competition, yet it would scarcely be what we want—viz: a good military account of the Campaign. For such alone we would hold out a prize and we think the Army would with advantage to themselves subscribe to the proposal of our Correspondent. There are ample materials and among the officers who went on the Expedition, there must be more than one capable of working them properly up. One useful Pioneer has already applied himself to the subject, Major Hough, and though his work will be as dry as the sands of Affghanistan, yet it will facilate the labours of those who came after him, by placing at their hands the essential facts contained in General Orders and the proceedings of the different Departments. While however it may do this, it cannot supply the want of another work and ought not to deter an attempt at one. The Major is, no doubt, a careful collector of facts, but not so capable, we fear, of arranging them, so as to produce an entertaining and instructive result.

MADRAS.

THE WRECK OF THE HANNAH.

The *Bombay Gazette* of the 30th ultimo, furnishes us with the particulars of a most unfortunate event—the wreck of the transport *Hannah*, at the mouth of the Indus, on the 17th within a few hours after leaving the roadstead of Kurrachee. On board this vessel were embarked the Officers and about 300 men of H. M. 17th Regiment, together with many other passengers, amounting with the crew and camp followers, to 450 persons. all of whom providentially escaped with their lives, although there is every reason to fear with an almost total loss of property:—the vessel too appears to have become a complete wreck. The destruction of property seems indeed to have been most lamentable, the clothing, arms and accoutrements of the 17th Regiment are either lost or entirely ruined, while the Mess Plate and treasure on board have shared the same fate. This most unfortunate event has indeed thrown a damp over the successful issue of our arms at Khelat since the jewels taken in that affair are, it is feared, entirely lost, together with much of the prize money, which rewarded the intrepidity of the Officers and men concerned in that gallant affair.

Referring to another column for the particulars of this unfortunate wreck, we may here offer some remarks upon the manner in which it happened and the circumstances in which it seems to have originated, both of which are well deserving of public attention as connected with the navigation of the Indus, one of the most important and interesting objects to which the attention of the mercantile community of this country is now directed. It was about eight in the morning when the *Hannah* weighed anchor and dropped out of Kurrachee harbour, at sun set the two beacons at the Hujamree mouth of the river were said to be visible, the soundings being about 10 fathoms. In an hour or two after, however, the soundings decreased rapidly, and before eight, the vessel struck on a sand bank, from which no exertion could get her off, while a fresh gale springing up, and a leak being sprung, increased the difficulties and dangers of her position. It was not till the morning of the 20th that the indefatigable exertions of the Captain, and of Lieutenant JARDINE of the Indian Navy, succeeded in getting the passengers and crew on shore, after being between two and three days in imminent peril of their lives, and we fear losing every article of property they possessed.

The accounts of the wreck bear ample testimony to the excellent conduct of the soldiers during this critical period, and further agree in exonerating the Commander, Captain MCGREGOR, from all blame, notwithstanding the serious misfortune which had occurred. It is stated to be shown by this Officer's Log Book, "that he had repeatedly sailed over, or very near to the same track before, with 10 fathoms water," and it thus appears that the sand bank on which he struck, must have either formed or shifted, in a remarkably short space of time, since its very existence was previously unknown. We need hardly observe, however, that changes of this kind are well known to occur very frequently near the mouths of most great rivers, especially those which, like the Indus, flow through vast tracts of sandy country; and are therefore loaded with a prodigious quantity of sediment, which is deposited around their mouths in the form of mud and sand banks, which are continually shifting in consequence of opposing tides and currents. In our present endeavours therefore to open the navigation of the Indus, and to introduce the manufactures of Britain among the nations who inhabit its banks, we must not only bear in mind this obvious and important fact—to which alone the late catastrophe appears to have been owing—but we must be careful to guard against a recurrence of similiar evils, by adopting every precaution which experience and science can suggest.

Prominent among these is the formation of accurate charts of the Indus and the adjoining coast, which will prove a most effectual safeguard to our incipient navigation in their quarter. What progress may have been already made in this necessary work we know not; we trust however that no time will now be lost in its execution, indispensable as it evidently is to the safety of our shipping. The Officers of the Indian Navy have already acquired a well deserved celebrity from the administrable surveys they have executed, around our coast and the adjoining seas, and this we hope they will now have an opportunity of increasing, by producing a valuable guide to our commerce through the shallow and variable branches of the Indus, and the no less shallow and variable seas into which its numerous mouths discharge themselves.

The careful fixing of buoys, and the establishment of an effectual pilot service, are also highly necessary. Had these aids to navigation existed, it is highly probable that the late unfortunate accident might have been avoided, and they may yet be the means of averting many similar losses. In opening this new and important field to Indian commerce, there is of course much to be done, which time alone can effectually accomplish, yet the necessity for immediate attention to the steps we have pointed out must at once be obvious. We have no doubt that the attention of Government has already been directed to these objects, and shall be pleased to hear that some progress has been already made towards their accomplishment.—*Spectator, April* 8.

LORD ELPHINSTONE.

We are very happy to learn by accounts from Kaitee of the 5th, that Lord Elphinstone had already so greatly profited by the genial and bracing air of the Hills as to be nearly pronounced convalescent.—*Spectator, April* 11.

MAULMAIN.

CORONATION OF THE KING OF AVA.

(*From the Maulmain Chronicle, Feb.* 26.)

The intelligence of ships having arrived from Madras lately with Troops, when connected with the withdrawal of the Residency from Rangoon, and the reported armament destined for China, is said to carry conviction into the minds of our friends on the opposite side, that mischief of some kind is concocting for them. So much the better, as it keeps them quiet, and free our people from the constant petty depredations to which they were subject some time ago.

There are rumours current of some considerable number of men having been marched down from the upper country to below Prome, but it is difficult to assign the degree of credit to be given to rumours of that kind; for an armed boat sent down from the Capital to Rangoon or elsewhere with despatches, is often magnified into numerous war boats full of troops. The most probable report among the many that are current, is that of the King being too much taken up with the ceremony of his approaching coronation, to trouble himself about his neighbours. He will have an opportunity in a few days of exercising the wit of his conjurers and wise men, in predicting good fortune for him, as an eclipse of the Sun will take place on the morning of the 4th proximo. This occurrence, so immediately preceding his coronation, will require some ingenuity to be made an omen of good fortune. The Lord of the rising Sun being one of his titles, and that luminary getting into the fangs of Mr. Nga-Po (as an eclipse is called among the common people) at such an awkward time, is likely, we think, to be construed against him, notwithstanding all his efforts to turn the tide of superstition in his favor. The eclipse, however, will not come upon him unawares. The Burmese have sufficient Astronomical science among them, to calculate an eclipse to within a few hours, besides which it is likely enough that some stray copy of a Nautical Almanac for 1840, may be in the hands of some one addicted to the science. His best change of success would be to give out that he had commanded the Sun to be eclipsed at a certain time. This would go down with many, perhaps, and tend to his fame with them though it would injure him with the more knowing.

We understand that shocks of Earth-quake continue to be felt to this day in the neighbourhood of Ava. This is, indeed, a most extraordinary circumstance, and highly calculated to act on the superstitious minds of the Burmese. It is a pity the subject cannot be investigated by men of science; for though occasional shocks are often felt there, yet none have ever been known of such violence and constant occurrence, as within the last few months. It was on the 23rd March last, we think, that the first and most severe shock was felt, which in one sense shook the Empire to its foundation; for scarce a brick edifice within it was left uninjured. Since that, almost daily tremblings have, we learn, been felt of greater or less violence, though none approaching to that of the first shock, which also has been the only one that extended as far as these Provinces.

MR. CHINAL.

A private letter from Rangoon of 18th, states. "Mr. Chinal arrived here yesterday, and quits for Calcutta this evening. He left the Capital on the 28th. He gives out that the French Marquis came hither in consequence of M. Barbe writing to the Governor of Chandernagore, and this clears up a mystery about the Marquis, when there writing to M. Barbe to follow him to the Capital. It is probable that Mr. Chinal may be employed in procuring some munitions of war; but the most probable conjecture is, his being sent to the Chandernagore Government, to apologize for the abrupt expulsion of the Marquis, after, perhaps, requesting M. Barbe to write to that Government for some such personage.

The markets are said to be very low at the Capital, which is a symptom of fear. The Mogul merchants are quitting the Capital, which corroborates both.

The number of Bos with red chattries seems to have diminished lately, all else, is much the same as usual."—*Ibid.*

WITHDRAWAL OF THE RESIDENCY.

In an article which we last week copied from the *Friend of India*, it will have been seen that our contemporary views the withdrawal of the Residency from Burmah, in the present position of affairs with China, as "a political error." We can hardly entertain a similar view of Captain McLeod's proceedings in this instance; neither do we see that importance attached to the circumstance, derived from the hostile position of our Government towards China, which seems to have impressed the mind of our contemporary. Between the Courts of Pekin and Amarapoora, there has been no correspondence for years; and although the boundaries of the two empires are conterminous, the two Courts are as remote from each other as the latter is from that of Lahore, and as ignorant of each other, as they are of any country beyond the Indus. Nothing, therefore, we imagine, is to be apprehended from a combination between the "flowery" and "golden" empires. Besides, he of the "City of Gems" is occupied at present, and will be for some time to come, with but one idea—that of making himself every whit a king—he thinks of nothing but crowns, palaces, and dancing women; and although he mortally hates the English, will be willing to postpone all warlike proceedings until some more auspicious season. He, no doubt, has had some vague information of what has happened at Canton; but our troops will have settled the whole question in that region before he becomes truly acquainted with the fact that war has actually occurred. In respect, therefore, to detecting or watching any intrigues between the two Courts alluded to, our Resident might as well be at Spence's Hotel as at Amarapoora. Besides, before impressing on Captain McLeod's last movement the stigma of "a political error," it should be considered that the Residency has, from the first, been subjected to such dishonourable treatment, that the withdrawal of it, at any moment, would have been deemed a justifiable proceeding. Indeed, its

very continuances at Amarapoora, under all the circumstances with which it has been encompassed, may be regarded so much as a "political error," that we know not by what ingenuity a similar charge can be made applicable to its refreshment from the country. If Tharawadee be disposed to engage in active hostilities against us, the mere circumstance of an unrecognized British Resident being at his Capital will not weigh against it, nor is our Government the less prepared to meet aggression on account of having no representative in Burmah.—*Ibid.*

On Friday last a fire broke out in the Ship-Yard of Messrs. Bentley & Co. but fortunately the progress of the flames was arrested by the prompt exertions of H. M. 63d Regiment. We have received the following letter on the subject which we willingly publish :—

To the Editor of the Maulmain Chronicle.

SIR,—In the most public manner possible, we beg to offer our sincere thanks to the "Military" of Maulmain, for extinguishing the fire on Friday last, and, through the medium of your paper, wish to make a few remarks on the subject.

From some cause not yet correctly ascertained, a shed connected with a blacksmith's shop and a range of buildings for the use of workmen, caught fire. In an instant all were in flames.

At the sound of the bugle, part of the "Queen's" 63d led by Capt. O'Brien and his active brother officers, dashed into the premises with a determination to subdue the fire and save property, the value of which may be imagined, but not easily estimated—They succeeded.

To shew the regularity of Military movements, we have only to state, that Colonel Logan gave an order for an Extra Guard. A young Officer went at full speed to see it executed. In less than 18 minutes the extensive premises were surrounded, and property protected by a chain of armed men.

The Deputy Adjutant General forwarded the Engines from the Ordnance Lines, which arrived in time to be of service.

The activity shewn by the "Talien Corps," in passing water to the "63d." was admired by Europeans, and excited the surprize of their countrymen—who, we regret to say, were generally idle spectators.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,
R. HEAVISIDE,
F. J. BENTLEY,
for Self and Partners.

European Intelligence.

NOTES OF A JOURNEY THROUGH FRANCE AND EGYPT TO BOMBAY.

BY EMMA ROBERTS.

A WEEK's residence in Paris does not give a stranger any title to decide upon the merits or demerits of that far-famed city. The period of the year (September) was not the most favourable for a visit, all the best families having emigrated for their country habitations, and the city consequently exhibited a deserted air, at variance with every preconceived notion of the gaiety of the French capital. The mixture of meanness and magnificence in the buildings, the dirt and bad smells, combine to give an unfavourable impression, which time only, and a better acquaintance with the more agreeable features of the place, can remove.

We had entertained a hope, upon our arrival in Paris, of getting the *malle poste*, for our journey to Chalons; but it was engaged for at least a month in advance. We were not more fortunate, our party now being reduced to three, in our endeavour to secure the *coupé*, and were obliged to be contented with places (corners) in the interior. We despatched all our heavy goods—that is, the portmanteaus—by *messagerie*, to Marseilles, which was a great saving of trouble. Though the expense of this conveyance is enormous, it has the great advantage of speed, travelling nearly as quickly as the diligence, while by the *roulage*, which is cheaper, very inconvenient delays may be incurred.

We quitted Paris on the 13th of September, well pleased with the treatment we had received. Though the charges for lodging, washing, &c. were high, there was no attempt at imposition; our landlady would not allow us to pay any thing for the eighth day of our abode, although we thereby entered into another week. We had the pleasure of leaving every body well satisfied with us, and willing to receive another English party.

The diligence started at the appointed hour, namely, six o'clock in the evening. Unaccustomed to travel all night, we were rather anxious about breakfast, as we had merely stopped to change horses, without resting for any refreshment since we quitted Paris. Upon our arrival at Sens, at about seven o'clock in the morning, we were amused by the appearance of a party of persons running, gesticulating, and talking with all their might, who brought hot coffee, milk, bread, and fruit to the carriage-door. At first we were disinclined to avail ourselves of the breakfast thus offered, but learning that we should not get any thing else before twelve o'clock in the day, we overcame our scruples, and partook of the despised fare, which we found very good of its kind. The country we passed through was rich with vineyards, and on account of the undulating nature of the country, and the frequency of towns and villages, exceedingly pleasing to the eye. We were continually delighted with some splendid burst of scenery. There was no want of foliage, the absence of the magnificent timber which we find in England being the less remarkable, in consequence of the number of trees which, if not of very luxuriant growth, greatly embellish the landscape, while we saw the vine every where, the rich clusters of its grapes reaching to the edge of the road. Though robbed of its grace, and its lavish display of leaf and tendril, by the method of cultivating, each plant being reduced to the size of a small currant bush, the foliage, clothing every hill with green, gave the country an aspect most grateful to those who are accustomed to English verdure.

We made our first halt at Auxerre, when a *déjeûné à la fourchette* was served up to the travellers of the diligence. A bad English dinner is a very bad thing, but a bad French one is infinitely worse. Hitherto, we had fed upon nothing but the most dainty fare of the best hotels and cafés, and I, at least, who wished to see as much as I could of France, was not displeased at the necessity of satisfying the cravings of appetite with bread and melon. There were numerous dishes, all very untempting, swimming in grease, and brought in a slovenly manner to the table; a roast fowl formed no exception, for it was sodden, half-raw, and saturated with oil. It was only at the very best hotels in France that we ever found fowls tolerably well roasted; generally speaking, they are never more than half-cooked and are as unsightly as they are unsavoury. Our fellow-passengers did ample justice to the meal, from which we gladly escaped, in order to devote the brief remainder of our time to a hasty toilet. From what we could could see of it, Auxerre appeared to be a very pretty place, it being at this time perfectly enwreathed with vines. In fact, every step of our journey increased our regret that we should be obliged to hurry through a country which it would have delighted us to view at leisure, each town that we passed through offering some inducement to linger on the road. Active preparations were making for the vintage, the carts which we met or overtook being laden with wine-casks, and much did we desire to witness a process associated in our minds with the gayest scenes of rural festivity.

It would not be a fair criterion to judge of the accommodation afforded at the hotels of the French provinces by those at which the diligence changed horses; in some I observed that we were not shown into the best apartments reserved for public entertainment, but in none did we find any difficulty in procuring water to wash with, nor did we ever see a dish substituted for a basin. From our own observation, it seems evident that the inns in the provinces have been much improved since the peace with England, and it appeared to us, that no reasonable objection could be made to the accommodation supplied. Auxerre certainly furnished the worst specimen we met with on the road; as no other place had we any right to complain of our entertainment, and at some the fare might be called sumptuous.

On the third morning from our departure from Paris, when nearly exhausted, the rising sun gave us a view of the environs of Lyons. We had been afraid to stop at Chalons the day before, having been informed that the Saone was not sufficiently full to ensure the certainty of the steam-boat's arrival at the promised time at Lyons. This was a great disappointment, but we were rewarded by the rich and beautiful scenery which characterizes the route by land. We could not help fancying that we could distinguish the home of Claude Melnotte amid those villages that dotted the splendid panorama; and the pleasure, with which I at least contemplated the fine old city, was not a little enhanced by its association with the Lady of Lyons and her peasant lover.

Lyons more than realized all the notions which I had formed concerning it; having an air of antique grandeur which I had vainly expected to find at Rouen. It is well-built throughout that striking contrast between the newer buildings and the more ancient edifices, which is so remarkable in the capital of Normandy. The Hotel de Ville, in the large square, is a particularly fine building, and the whole city looks as if it had been for centuries the seat of wealth and commerce.

Friends in England, and the few we met with or made in Paris, had furnished us with the names of the hotels it would be most advisable to put up at; but those lists were, as a matter of course, lost, and we usually made for the nearest to the place where we stopped. The Hotel de Paris, which looks upon the Hotel de Ville, was the one we selected at Lyons; it was large and commodious, but had a dull and melancholy air. As it is usual in French hotels, the building enclosed a court-yard in the centre, with galleries running round the three sides, and reaching to the upper stories. The furniture, handsome of its kind, was somewhat faded, adding to the gloom which is so often the characteristic of a provincial inn. As soon as possible, we sallied forth, according to our usual wont, to see as much as we could of the town and its environs; both invited a longer stay, but we were anxious to be at Marseilles by the 19th, and therefore agreed to rise at half-past three on the following morning, in order to be ready for the steamer, which started an hour after. We had begun, indeed, to fancy sleep a superfluous indulgence; my female friend (Miss E.), as well as myself, suffering no other inconvenience from three nights spent in a diligence than that occasioned by swelled feet and ancles.

We found a very considerable number of persons in the steam-boat, many of whom were English, and amongst them a gentleman and his wife, who, with four children, were travelling to Nice, where they proposed to spend the winter. The fine weather of the preceding day had deserted us, and it rained in torrents during the first hours of the descent of the Rhone. The wet and cold became so difficult to bear, that I was glad to take up a position under the funnel of the steamer, where, protected a little from the rain, I speedily got dry and warm, enjoying the scenery in despite of the very unfavourable state of the weather. We missed our communicative boatman of the Saone, but met with a very intelligent German, who gave us an account of the remarkable places *en route* pointing out a spot once exceedingly dangerous to boats ascending or descending, in consequence of a projecting rock, which, by the orders of the Emperor Napoleon, had been blown up.

All the steamers which leave Lyons profess to go as far as Arles; but, in order to ensure conveyance to that place the same evening, it is necessary to ascertain whether they carry freight to Beaucaire, for in that case they always stay the night to unlade, taking the boat on at an early hour the following morning. We found ourselves in this predicament; and perhaps, under all the circumstances to be related, it would be advisable to leave the Lyons boat at Avignon, and proceed by land to Marseilles. Many of the passengers pursued this plan. The weather cleared up in the middle of the day, and we passed Avignon in a rich crimson sunset, which threw its roseate flush upon the ruins of the Papal place, and the walls and bastions of this far-famed city. Experience had shown us the impossibility of taking more than a cursory view of any place in which we could only sojourn for a single day, and therefore we satisfied ourselves with the glimpses which we caught of Avignon from the river. A half-finished bridge, apparently of ancient date, projects rudely into the middle of the stream; we passed through another more modern, though somewhat difficult to shoot: our voyage the whole day having been made under a succession of bridges, many upon the suspension principle, and extremely light and elegant. The beauty and the variety of the scenery which presented itself, as we shot along the banks of the Rhone, were quite sufficient to engage our attention and to make the hours fly swiftly along; there were few, however, of our fellow-travellers who did not resort to other methods of amusement. After the weather had cleared, the decks dried, and the sunbeams, warming, without scorching, glanced through fleecy clouds, the greater number of the passengers remained in the cabin below, whence, the windows being small and high, there was literally nothing to be seen. They employed themselves in reading, writing, or working; the French ladies in particular being most industrious in plying the needle. It consisted of the mother, an elderly lady, of a very prepossessing appearance, with her son and daughter; the former about thirty years old, the latter considerably younger. The dress of the ladies, which was perfectly neat, consisted of printed muslin dresses, black silk shawls, and drawn bonnets, seemed so completely English, that we could scarcely believe that they were not our own country-women; they were the most diligent of the workers and readers, and as we never went down into the cabin unless to take some refreshment, or to fetch any thing we wanted, a few brief civilities only passed between us, but these were so cordially offered, that we regretted that want of inclination to enjoy the air and prospect upon deck which detained the party below.

There was a *restaurateur* on board the steamer, who supplied the passengers at any hour they pleased with the articles inserted in his *carte*; every thing was very good of its kind, but the boat itself was neither handsomely nor conveniently fitted up, and I should recommend in preference the new iron steamers which have been lately introduced upon the Rhone. It was about nine o'clock in the evening when we reached Beaucaire; one other boat stopped at this place, but the rest, to our mortification, went on to Arles. We were told that we must be at the river-side at four the next morning, in order to proceed, and we therefore could not reckon upon more than four or five hours' sleep. The night was very dark, and a scene of great confusion took place in the disembarkation. We had agreed to wait quietly until the remainder of the passengers got on shore; and Miss E. and myself, glad to escape from the bustle and confusion of the deck, down below to collect our baggage, &c. The quay was crowded with porters, all vociferating and struggling to get hold of parcels to carry, while the commissionaires from hotels were more than ever eager in their recommendations of their respective houses: their noise and gesticulations were so great, and their requests urged with so much boldness, that we might have been led to suppose we had fallen into the hands of banditti, who would plunder us the moment they got us into their clutches. Miss E. had posted herself at an open window, watching this strange scene, and, while thus employed, was startled by hearing a piercing scream, and a plunge into the water; at the same moment, the clamour on shore became excessive. We instantly rushed upon deck, where we found our other friend safe; and upon inquiring what had happened, were told that a box had fallen into the river. Not quite satisfied of the truth of this statement, we asked several other persons, and received the same answer, the master of the steamer assuring us that no more serious accident had occurred. We soon afterwards went on shore, which was then perfectly quiet, and preceded by a commissionaire, who had persuaded the gentleman of our party to put himself under his convoy, we walked into the town. At a short distance, which form the water, we came upon an hotel of very prepossessing appearance, which we concluded to be the one to which we were bound. The windows of the lower and upper floors were all open, the rooms lighted, showing clean gay-looking paper upon the walls, and furniture of a tempting appearance. Our conductor, however, passed the door, and dived down a lane, upon which we halted, and declared our resolution to go no farther. After a little parley, and amongst other representations of the superior accommodations of the unknown hotel, an assurance that eatables were magnificent, we gained our point, and entered the house which had pleased us so much. We were met at the door by two well-dressed good-looking women, who showed us into some excellent apartments upstairs, all apparently newly-fitted up, and exceedingly well-furnished. Ordering supper, we descended to the public room, and as we passed to a table at this father end, noticed a young man sitting rather disconsolately at a window. We were laughing and talking with each other, when suddenly starting up, the stranger youth exclaimed, "You are English? How glad I am to hear my own language spoken again!" He told us that he was travelling through France to Malta, and had come by the other steam-boat, in which there were no other English passengers beside himself. He then inquired whether a lady had not been drowned who came by our vessel; we answered no; but upon his assurance that such was the fact, we began to entertain a suspicion that the truth had been concealed from us. It was not, however, until the next morning, that we could learn the particulars. The gentleman who had accompanied us, and who had likewise been deceived by the statements made to him, ascertained that the accident had befallen the elderly French lady, with whose appearance we had been so much pleased. She had got on board a boat moored close to ours, and believing that she had only to step on shore, actually walked into the river. She was only ten minutes under water, and the probabilities are, that if the circumstance had been made known, and prompt assistance afforded, she might have been resuscitated. Amid the number of English passengers on board the steamer, the chances were very much in favour of its carrying a surgeon, accustomed to the best methods to be employed in such cases. No inquiry of the kind was made, and we understood that the body had been conveyed to a church, there to await the arrival of a medical man from the town. We were, of course, inexpressibly shocked by this fatal catastrophe, the more so because we all felt that we might have been of use had we been told the truth. The grief and distraction of the son and daughter, who had thus lost a parent, very possibly prevented them from taking the best measures in a case of such emergence; whereas strangers, anxious to be of service, and having all their presence of mind at command, might have afforded very important assistance How little had we thought, during the day spent so pleasantly upon the Rhone, that a fiat had passed which doomed one of the party to an untimely and violent death! Our spirits, which had been of the gayest nature, were damped by this incident, which recurred to our minds again and again, and we were continually recollecting some trifling circumstance which had prepossessed us in favour of the family, thus suddenly overwhelmed by so distressing an event.

A couple of hours brought us to Arles, where we arrived before the town was astir; the steamer to Marseilles did not leave the quay until twelve o'clock, and we were tantalized by the idea of the excellent night's rest we might have had if the steamer had fulfilled its agreement, to go on to Arles. The Marseilles boat, though a fine vessel of its class, was better calculated for the conveyance of merchandize than of passengers; there being only one cabin, and no possibility of procuring any refreshment on board. This is the more inconvenient, as there is danger in bad weather of the passage into the harbour of Marseilles being retarded for several hours. We now lamented having slighted an invitation to comfortable quarters in Avignon, which we found on board the Lyons steamer, printed upon a large card.

We were much pleased with what we saw of Arles it is a clean well-built town, the streets generally rather narrow, but the houses good. In walking about, we found many of the outer doors open, and neat-looking female servants employed in sweeping the halls and entries. With what I hope may be deemed a pardonable curiosity, we peeped, and sometimes steeped into these interiors, and were gratified by the neatness and even elegance which they exhibited. We found the people remarkably civil, and apparently too much accustomed to English travellers to trouble themselves about us. The hotel was not of the best class, and we only saw some very inferior *cafés*, consisting of one small room, with a curtain before the open door, and on the outside a rude representation, on a board, of a coffee-pot, and a cup and saucer. All the shops at Arles had curtains at the doors, a peculiarity which we had not previously observed in the towns of France. We went into a handsome church, where we found a few people, principally beggars, at prayers, and leaving a small donation in the poor-box, beguiled the time by walking and sitting in the *boulevard* of the town. We were glad to embark at twelve o'clock, and soon afterwards were again in motion. The Rhone is at this place a fine broad stream; but its banks were less interesting than those which we had passed the previous day. We came at length to a large tract of low land, washed on the other side by the Mediterranean, which we were told was tenanted by troops of wild horses, known by their being invariably white. There were certainly many horses to be seen, and amongst them numerous white ones; but they appeared to be exceedingly tame, and had probably only been turned out for the benefit of grazing on the salt marsh. Possibly there might be some difficulty in catching them in so large a plain, perfectly unenclosed, and they might have bred in these solitudes. There were also some very peaceable-looking donkeys to be seen, and now and then a few cows. We did not perceive any human habitations until we came to the extreme point, where one or two low dreary-looking tenements had been raised.

The view for the last hour had been magnificent, extending over a splendid country to the lower Alps, and now Marseilles appeared in the distance, spread upon the side of a hill down to the water, and its environs stretching far and wide, villas and country mansions appearing in every direction. Upon entering the Mediterranean, we were struck by the line of demarcation which kept the green waters of the Rhone, and the deep dark blue of the sea, perfectly distinct from each other, there being no blending of tints. Here we were delighted by the appearance of a shoal of large fish, which were seen springing out of the water; several approached the steamer, gambolling about in the most beautiful manner possible darting along close to the surface, and then making long leaps with their bodies in the air. One of our fellow-passengers, a German, with whom we had made acquaintance, hastened to fetch a gun; but, much to our joy, it missed fire in several attempts to discharge it at the beautiful creatures which had thus amused us with their sports. How strong must be the destructive propensity, when it leads men to wanton acts of barbarity like this; since, had a hundred fish been killed, there would have been no possibility of getting one on board, and the slaughter must merely have been perpetrated for slaughter sake! Our remonstrances passed unheeded, and we therefore did not conceal our rejoicing over the disappointment.

The entrance into Marseilles is very picturesque, being guarded on either side by high rocks, bold, and projecting in various shapes. We found the harbour crowded with vessels of various denominations, and amongst them several steamers, one a French ship of war, and another the English Government steamer, appointed to carry the mails to Malta. The smell arising from the stagnant water in the harbour of Marseilles was at first almost intolerable, and it was not without surprise that we saw several gay gondola-looking boats, with white and coloured awnings, filled with ladies and gentlemen, rowing about apparently for pleasure. The clock struck five as we got on shore, and, much to our annoyance, we found that our first visit was to be paid to the custom-house. Upon embarking at Arles, a *gensd'armes* had laid his finger upon our baggage, and demanded our keys; but upon a remonstrance at the absurdity of a re-examination, after it had passed through the whole of France, allowed it to be put on board inviolate. Here, however, there was no escaping; and, tired as we were, and anxious to get to our hotel, we were obliged to submit to the delay. Fortunately, we were the first arrivals, and the search not being very strict, we were not detained more than ten minutes, or a quarter of an hour, which, under the circumstances, seemed an age. The nearest hotel was of course our place of refuge, and we were fortunate in speedily finding a very good one, the Hotel des Embassadeurs, an immense establishment, exceedingly well conducted in every respect. Here we enjoyed the prospect of a night's rest, having, during a hundred and ten hours, only had about ten, at two different periods, in bed. Refreshed, however, by a change of dress, we had no inclination to anticipate the period of repose, but hurried our toilet, in order to join the dinner at the *table d'hôte*.

Marseilles struck us as being the handsomest and the cleanest town we had yet seen in France. All the houses are spacious and lofty, of white stone, and in good condition, while every portion of the city is well paved, either after the English fashion, or with brick quite even, and inserted in a very tasteful manner. Many of the streets are extremely wide, and some are adorned with handsome fountains. The shops are very elegant, and much more decorated than those of any other place in France; some had paintings upon glass, richly gilded, on either side of the doors, handsome curtains hung down within, and the merchandize displayed was of the best description. These shops were also well lighted, and together with the brilliant illuminations of the neighbouring *cafés*, gave the streets a very gay appearance. We wandered about until rather a late hour; the *cafés*, both inside and outside, were crowded with gentlemen; but in the promenades we saw fewer ladies than we had expected, and came to the conclusion—an erroneous one in all probability—that French women stay very much at home. Assuredly, the beauty of the night was most inviting; but, worn

out at last, we were obliged to retire to our hotel. The next day, we made inquiries concerning the steamers, and learned that the French boat was certainly to start on the following afternoon, the 21st, while the departure of the English vessel was uncertain, depending upon the arrival of the mails. Though disappointed at finding that the French steamer did not touch at Naples, as I had been led to believe, I felt inclined to take my passage in her; but the advantage of being in time to meet the Bombay steamer at Suez was so strongly urged upon me, in consequence of the ticklish state of Egypt, that finding plenty of room on board the *Nitocris*, we engaged a couple of berths in the ladies' cabin. Mehemet Ali was represented to us as being so obstinately determined to retain possession of the Turkish fleet, and the British Government so urgent with France to support the Porte against him, that, if this intelligence was to be depended upon, no time ought to be lost. It was with reluctance that I gave up my original intention of lingering on the road, and at Malta, but my unwillingness to run any risk of being shut out of Egypt prevailed. After executing this necessary business, we engaged a carriage, and paying a visit to the British consul, drove about the town and its environs, being the more pleased the more we saw of both. There appeared to be a deficiency of trees in the landscape, but a peculiar air of its own compensated for the want of foliage.

The private streets and houses of Marseilles are very regular, and well built, nor did we see any portion of the town of a very inferior description. I should have liked much to have remained a few weeks in it, and indeed regretted the rapidity of my journey through France, not being able to imagine any thing more delightful than a leisure survey of the country through which we passed. I had been so strongly determined to make the overland trip to India, that I would have undertaken it quite alone, had I not met with a party to accompany me; some kind friends would not allow me, however, to make the experiment; nor do I recommend ladies, unless they are very well acquainted with the country, to travel through it without the protection of a gentleman, a courier, or a good servant. Miss E. and myself performed the whole distance without a care or a thought beyond the objects on the road; but this we owed entirely to the attention of the gentleman who put us safely on board the Malta steamer, and who managed every thing for us upon the way, so that we were never in one single instance subjected to the slightest annoyance.—*Blackwood's Magazine, for February.*

A SUNDAY MORNING AT THE MILITARY ASYLUM, CHELSEA.

MR. EDITOR,—It is impossible to live all the year round in London, for a whole generation together, without at length, by some lucky accident, being drawn into a rather closer knowledge of this excellent nursery for the ranks of our army; beyond knowing that indeed there is such an establishment somewhere in Chelsea; all that most Londoners, or indeed Englishmen, know about the matter.

How rich is the field for speculation in this every-day world of ours, I mean that particularly English world between Temple-bar and Hydepark-corner: or if one could extend one's views or walks along certain of the radii of the three-mile Post office circle —that mysterious labyrinth of opposing atoms! now threaded in all directions by connecting omnibuses, extending their social propensities to an immense outer circle of dense population of upwards of thirty miles in extent, over hill and dale; still including *rows* and *squares*, and *places*, and joint cottages, all of the London family, here is a ring of five hundred neighbourhoods, unknowing and unknown. What does a man, woman, or child at Stratford-le-Bow know or care for your Clapton or Clapham people, or your immense Hackney! or these, again, for the deep valley of Clerkenwell. Kentish and Camden Towns have no eyes, nor legs, nor sympathies for your Sloane-streeters, nor us lieges of the King's road, Chelsea! where I, an unhappy atom, struck by the bat of fortuitous events, have been caught in the unorageous foliage of a western suburb road side sycamore tree; and have, alas! fallen to the earth, and grown quite alive to this new world I make up an imperceptible particle of. In this spot, strictly following the laws of attraction, I find myself drawn in a cohesion, (I speak to you as an F. R. S.) independent of the concurrent *gravity*, which, from my known *levity*, can hardly be calculated on, to neighbouring and larger bodies; and thence my perception of my little neighbours of the Military School. I find on looking back, dear sir, that I have been wandering in a metaphor of atoms and gravities and cohesions, till I fear you may begin to fancy me not very coherent, and rather suspect I am one of those atoms attached to another neighbourhood, further south across the river, known as the palace of Bethlehem! nor should I have any objection to that respected quarter (so close to the hurry-scurry of the "*world upside down*," and *the Elephant and Castle,*) but that its component atoms are pent up in too close a propinquity, their range being confined by the very strong cohesion of brick and mortar: so that for this once I will wander no further round this subdivided circle of organic matter, but come to my present subject. Allow me first, however, to ask you why it is that Englishmen, and particularly idlers about town, and of the clubs, are always so extremely curious about what people are at in China or India, or at Moscow or Vienna, nay, every where and any where, as long as it cannot, by any possibility, be any concern or business of theirs? I do assure you, I have the greatest difficulty at our most respected United Service Hotel, (where I perceive a constant succession of arrivals from abroad, or the country, if I may judge by the great number of portmanteaus and carpet-bags with which the house and servants are daily charged, for the greater convenience of those worthy members who, perhaps, defer taking a less comfortable lodging,) I say I have the greatest difficulty in getting at a paper, from the intense curiosity and concern about the rejected opium at Lintin; to be certain whether Prince Albert has recrossed the Channel, or whether he again dines this day with her Majesty,—whether the Emperor Nicholas is at St. Petersburgh just now or not, and whether the portfolio of the Spanish Finance has been shifted for the fiftieth time within the year from Don Jose to Don Jacobo. This wandering of the mind, and eagerness to escape from homely things, taking place beneath our noses, is, perhaps, one of the signs of elevation of thought beyond the vulgar necessities of our domestic lives. It is most particularly exemplified about four o'the clock P. M., when there is a general rush for the last news, generated only within the last hour or two! and all this while, my dear little fellows, though they do make a great noise in the world, may drum themselves deaf without being thought of or dreamt of at either of our two great military clubs; no, notwithstanding the granite column, crowned by the figure of the noble duke, their late great patron, stares them in the face.

Well, I, at any rate, must condescend to take some note of this matter, and at length set out on my journey along the *King's-road*, to the School. It was a bright Sunday morning,—I prefer Sunday mornings,—and when serene and beautiful the mind is filled with the same (attentive) serenity, and double thankfulness for all the goods the Almighty has so profusely showered on this favoured island. As apl proach, my heart swells with joy and pride at the martial and sweet sounds that echo from the chief façade of the handsome portico across the lawn, where the juvenile band, (the delight of all Chelsea and Pimlico,) headed by their tiniest of drum-majors, has taken its accustomed stand, discoursing sweet music, as it were, in gratitude to God, and as prelude to the march of the whole body of these Lilliputian soldiers into the Chapel to prayers. I march too, "pas accèlere, en avant," and, with the eagerness of a child, I soon run, to be in time to pass the lodge, and join the interesting service. As there is great and wise liberality shown in admitting all decently dressed people, at proper hours, the portico and the graceful approach is crowded—all listen delighted; for this little band is so well trained, and are such capital musicians, that they will bear a comparison with many of our regimental bands—while their carriage, their precision, and knowing look of *savoir faire*, heightens the treat. At half-past ten all march into Chapel, and range themselves on benches on the floor—their serjeants and officers occupying chairs in front of them, nearer the clergyman, and the public a light gallery run round the plain walls above. The whole has the air of a good large comfortable room, the pulpit being a little raised against the side.

After the usual prayers, the Rev. Mr. Clark preached a sermon, well adapted to their youth; which, of course, should not be too much overloaded by obscure meanings or parables, metaphors, or abstract truths; simple truth, and goodness, and gratitude for blessings received, are best adapted to this early age. The boys all rising, kneeling, or sitting, with the precision of the parade, superintended by their small serjeants and corporals on the wings and centre.

Service over, they all march out, and are dismissed for half an hour to their play-ground and parade, a large yard to the north of the building, (which abuts on the *King's-road*, within a few yards of Sloane-square.) This walled play-ground communicates with the front lawn, by an iron gate, now guarded by a little serjeant, who allowed me very kindly to enter, (strictly in order!) and feast my eyes with a sight so very pleasing, where a salutary and very gentle restraint enhance these two or three hundred urchins' happiness. Here they walked and ran up and down, in groups of various numbers, or found themselves solus, meditating on the coming good dinner, to which the steady hand (though slow!) of the clock was pointing onward to a quarter past one, when the crash of drums gave notice to fall in and march to their benches, ranged at the tables in the two chiefs halls, on each side of the grand entrance. Here, too, I betook myself in anticipation of the onslaught, and saw the perfect cleanness, order, and regularity observed,—the pieces of bread to each, with most careful exactness of size, and each plate anon loaded with excellent boiled beef and mashed potatoes, by the women cooks of the establishment, dressed in neat red gowns, white caps and aprons, attended, too, by their little man cooks, in clean white aprons, for the quick distribution, all now ready and smoking hot,—when the troops, headed by their officers, marched in, breaking the ranks by tap of drum, and each finding his well-known place. Water jugs and cups ranged along the centre of the tables, they fell to with that true zest, given only by appetite and health; 'twas good of its kind —'twas enough!—'twas a feast! What though no wine nor heavy beer was there, nor twenty changes in silver and porcelain graced the board, 'twas just as good, nay, much better; they knew not of such things, and cared not.

And us who are older, could we get rid of some of our endless wants, and cease to pamper our bodies with all sorts of stuffings, how much better—how much more healthy and vigorous we should be, body and mind! We are constantly put in mind how very little beyond this plain and good fare our poor natures will bear, and yet are we grumbling, constantly grumbling at our hard fate,—that we cannot afford, forsooth, to ruin our health. The Army and Navy want more half-pay! What for? Can't we afford beef, potatoes, bread and water! with such innocent condiments for our advancing age and delicacy, as salt and pepper?

O ye luxurious in the mansions of the town and country, who stuff your children with high seasonings, look here. Ye of Baker-street, Gloucester-place, and Portman-square, who lament over your scanty carriage, and too economical footman, and absence of *John Dorys* and white soups, and Johannisburg, come some day and look at these boys eating their dinner. Repining half-pay officers, hold your tongues, and eat your quiet pies and puddings, if not too richly savoured, and drink your heavy wet or your go of whisky, and esteem it but too much luxury. I tell you, on my honour, it is good for you. Be firmly assured that the blessings of this world have a most beautifully equal distribution, in spite of the folly, the presumption, the endless longings, and contrivances of man to enjoy always something beyond what he possibly can enjoy; and the more he strives the worse it is—let him have the wealth of Crœsus, 'tis still the same.

Such were some of the thoughts which crowded upon me as I viewed, hat in hand, this truly interesting scene. By the way, we English are still a strange, *rude*, barbarous people—'tis well that music and the fine arts have of late been somewhat familiarized, by being at least partially thrown open to all; and that the middle and lower classes are admitted from behind their counters and their daily labours, to see and hear things which may humanize them a little, and teach them *good manners*, and a quiet careful deportment in the proper place. The serjeants stationed in the entrance, had much ado to make some of the lookers on pull off their hats, though they were very kindly allowed to stand near the tables; one wonders that any decently dressed man *needs* to be *told* to do so—but so it is.

So it is too at our Theatres; young men lounge, stand before you, keep their hats on, and act in the most insolent, selfish manner *still*, if they are allowed: some people call this spirit and independence; but surely that stupidity must be out of date in things so glaringly brutal and disgusting, and yet it amends very, very slowly. There is some fault in the want of wholesome and rigid *regulations*—we are to blame for too much looseness, too much trusting to people's own good sense and good feeling. They must nowhere be entirely trusted. It was only the other day I witnessed an inconvenience already springing out of the very proper admission of all the world to the *National Gallery*; fellows were there not even *decently* clean, or decently dressed! Now, (as in France and Germany) that most necessary point is the essential condition. How can any dirty or ragged ruffian *expect* to be admitted! or one half drunk! all may enter, but not in an improper state. In the same way nurses are allowed to bring a parcel of young children in hand an in arms—it is absurd, and should be stopped. Did not this double nuisance strike Sir John and Lady Julia Hobhouse, whom I observed among the crowd? I ask, for it should be set right in high quarters. Surely some practical good sense should regulate such things at the fountain head, so that national benefits may remain intact, and be much extended, without inconvenience and disorder. This nuisance springing up with a better order of things, extends to the Museum and our Parks; where men may be seen extended on the grass or benches, drunk or asleep, who from their very *dress**, should never have been suffered to pass the gates. But to my Military School, which is but a stone's throw from the old veterans and Chelsea Hospital, from whence they imbibe a martial spirit. I could not help musing on this admirable institution. It is conducted on the best economy, and cannot fail to be a real aid to the strength of the country; quietly, year after year, these well-trained lads enter the ranks; how much better than if they had run wild, unlettered, and uncouth, about our lanes, alleys, and courts!

I returned, musing, home—thinks I, two generations have already passed away since their establishment; how many, many times have these children come and gone! still renewing its constant youth, while its boys are now our warriors, some in distant climates on duty. So too its little band goes on with fresh infusions of little ones, making the old witnessing elms and walls still echo with their harmonious melodies.

* There should be a rule about the dress and *department* of people admitted to the Museum, the Gallery, or any public exhibition, and the Parks, for the general good. People very dirty, and staggering tipsy, or in rags, should be strictly excluded; or decent people will be annoyed and disgusted. In our Parks, too, there should be a stricter supervision, to prevent the children damaging the shrubs, grass, walks, and benches, owing to the carelessness of their nurses! which one constantly witnesses at present. Nor should people be allowed to enter the Parks carrying baskets and loads—it is unseemly and improper.

THE MINISTRY.

In the House of Lords last night, very soon after the Lord Chancellor had taken his seat upon the Woolsack, the Earl of RIPON called Lord Melbourne's attention to a statement made by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons on Thursday—that Mr. Henry Ellis had not been appointed to the Comptrollership of the Exchequer because Lord Althorp thought him an unfit person for that office. Now this could not be correct; for in 1833, Lord Althrop told Lord Ripon, that he concurred with Earl Grey, then at the head of Government, in thinking that Mr. Ellis's public character and situation in the Exchequer gave him a just claim to the office of Comptroller; and it so happened that Lord Ripon, immediately after quitting Lord Althorp, wrote a letter to Mr. Ellis, informing him of what had passed—that those two authorities had distinctly admitted the grounds on which he urged his appointment—and congratulating him on being selected for the office. Certainly, Lord Ripon had nothing to say against the appointment which was actually made; but, in justice to Mr. Ellis, he had thought it right to make this statement.

Lord MELBOURNE thought it very natural for Lord Ripon to say what he had said; but, in the position which he had held, Lord Melbourne was not cognizant of what took place.

[This was Lord John Russell's statement of what Lord Althrop said to *him*—

"A bill passed through the House, *and I remember Lord Althorp observing to me, that if any question were asked on the subject, it would be most painful to him to answer it, because Mr. Ellis was a near relative to our then colleague Lord Ripon, and he should be obliged to say that he could not recommend Mr. Ellis for the office.* In so saying, Lord Althorp purely did his duty as Minister of the Crown; because, whatever might be the considerations of economy, I don't imagine that a Minister was bound by such views not to recommend a person qualified for the office."

Who speaks the truth—Lord Ripon, or Lord John Russell, or both? If both, what are we to think of "honest" Lord Althorp?]

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY gave notice, that on Tuesday, or Thursday if that day were more convenient, he should ask Lord Melbourne on what principles he intended to carry on his Administration, and by what means? After his recent defeats, Lord Melbourne might not be disposed to treat the matter with as much jocularity as formerly.

Lord STRANGFORD presented a petition from merchants engaged in the trade to Western Africa, complaining of the encroachments of the French at Portendic and other places, and of the neglect of the British Government to afford them protection. He entered into a detail of the injuries for which the petitioners claimed redress, and moved for papers connected with these affairs. The motion, however, was subsequently withdrawn, on Lord Melbourne's assurance that the Government was then endeavouring to procure an amicable settlement of the differences from the French Government.

In the House of Commons, Lord JOHN RUSSELL informed Mr. Leader, that Frost, Jones, and Williams, had actually sailed for New South Wales.

The Clerk of the Crown appeared at the bar, on the motion of Sir GEORGE CLERK, and explained that a writ for Perthshire was sent from the Crown Office according to the usual form; but it was discovered, an hour after it had been despatched, that the Speaker's warrant did not specify that Lord Stormont had been called up to the House of Lords; and another writ, in conformity with the terms of the warrant, was sent. After this explanation, Sir GEORGE CLERK deemed it unnecessary to take any further steps.

In consequence of an irregularity in serving the notices in the matter of the Ludlow election petition, Mr. ORD, the Chairman of the Committee, moved that the order for the attendance of Committee be discharged. Some discussion ensued; and Mr. Rose, Clerk of the Committee, Mr. James Coppock, election-agent, and Mr. Seyms, messenger, were examined. The debate was adjourned to Monday.

The Schedules of the Irish Municipal Bill were agreed to in Committee, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

The House went into Committee on the Navy Estimates, and voted 1,142,504*l.* for the payment of wages to Seamen and Marines.

One point of the discussion must be noticed. Sir THOMAS COCHRANE asked why sums of money voted for wages had been applied to the service of the dockyards and the purchase of stores? Mr. MORE O'FERRALL and Mr. CHARLES WOOD admitted that such was the fact; and their excuse in effect was, that the convenience of the department required the occasional irregularity. [We recollect that when Sir James Graham detected the same practice in this Tory predecessors, the virtuous Whigs were astounded by the iniquity; yet they do the same themselves now—persevere in the practice after its exposure and servere censure by their own party.]

Colonel SIBTHORPE gave notice, that before going into any Committee of Supply, he should move for returns of all appointments, including the Household, to places with salaries above 200*l.* a year, made since 1830.

The House was adjourned at a quarter before one, to Monday; when it will meet at a quarter before three, to renew the debate on Mr. ORD's motion.—*Spectator.*

THE MINISTERIAL MESS.

The country at last appears to be about to reap some little benefit from an Opposition. The Commons, by a majority of 28 in a House of 452 Members, have passed something very like a vote of censure on the Monteagle-Newport job. The Tories have placed one obstacle in the way of any future perversions of the Civil List Pensions to forward "political arrangements;" and they may point to this, as well as their votes on the Jamaica Bill and Prince Albert's allowance, as to good deeds, whatever might be their motives.

The debate, as is usual with debates now-a-days, was chiefly distinguished by recrimination; what little of argument there was on the true merits of the case, will be found in the speech of Sir Robert Peel. Sir Robert did not, however, succeed in distinctly bringing out to the uninitiated the gross nature of the job, or the importance of the principles involved.

The Exchequer, as we formerly took occasion to explain, was in its origin a court of judicature for the settlement of pecuniary claims between the King and his subjects. All money paid into it was recorded, as well as all money drawn out; every process was attended with all the formalities of law; so that nothing was paid without stating its purpose, or without the authority of regular documents properly authenticated. And these particularities, though varied after a fashion to meet the change of times, continued till the late reform in the office.

By this measure, the antiquated formalities were got rid of, and a much simpler mode established; the taxes &c. being paid at once into the account of the Exchequer at the Bank of England, where they remain till applied by the Comptroller; his authority being, *first*, a vote of Parliament appropriating the money to a particular service, and *second*, the demand by the party entitled, backed, if needful, by the Treasury. But in getting rid of the old forms, the old checks were likewise got rid of; and the whole revenue of the country is now in a certain sense in the power of the Comptroller of the Exchequer. Let him be weak or corrupted, and the money may be diverted by the Executive from one service to another, or applied to purposes not sanctioned by Parliament, or which Parliament has even refused to sanction; or, to put the extreme case, the public money might be placed at the disposal of a bold and corrupt Government to effect a *coup d'état*. The office, in conformity with the precedent of the old Exchequer, is therefore rendered as independent as forms can make it. The Comptroller holds his place for life; not upon any understanding, but defying the prerogative—*irremoveable by the Crown*. In an Act regulating Pensions and Superannuations, it is expressly forbidden to grant a pension to this high officer, so as to keep him free from all temptation. Yet this office, so important in itself, and in a whilom Whig constitutional sense so "sacred"—embodying, as it does, the power over the public purse—has been, we will not say more jobbed than any other, but jobbed as much as it was possible, by the Reform Ministry. Every time they have touched it, the end has been to facilitate a "political arrangement."

The source whence the pension was granted to Sir John Newport was an equally scandalous job; though we believe it was a Ministerial necessity enforced this, the *law* forbidding it to be done in any other way. When Mr. Hume and Mr. Grote objected to allow the Crown the power of granting Civil List pensions, as, amongst other things, a privilege liable to be abused to Ministerial purposes, the Government over and over again protested it was only intended to bestow them on literature, science, and art, or to reward some special service which could not be remunerated in any other way. The amount of these rewards to literature, &c. varies, in general, from 50*l.* to 300*l.*; and yet we find the Reform Ministers granting at one swoop to a political friend, to facilitate a political arrangement of their own, 1,000*l.*—leaving 200*l.* to reward the claimants in letters, science, arts, and special services!

We have hitherto confined our attention to the gross nature of the double job, without regard to the merits of Sir John Newport. We have no desire to make a person of his age, and in a state, as is alleged, of pecuniary embarrassment, a subject for comment, yet we must observe that services do not seem of a nature to justify an irregular pension. His case is this. When at school at Eton, he had two lords for fags, and treated them kindly; upwards of thirty years ago he was Chancellor of the Exchequer in Ireland, and effected some administrative reforms; he subsequently made many motions and speeches on public questions, some of which were carried; and he is in embarrassed circumstances. Well? As regards the Eton fags, no one but a lord would surely have put forward such a reason for granting a pension. As Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer he did his duty, perhaps in compliance with previous pledges; and no doubt received his salary for the year and one month he held office. With respect to the speeches and motions part of the argument, Mr. Leader observed, (and the observation was facetiously *improved* by Sir Robert Peel,) that at this rate Colonel Sibthorpe was entitled to a pension for his services in the case of Prince Albert's allowance. Mr. Hume would be entitled to a very large pension indeed; a countless list of speakers in the old Borough monger Parliament might follow in his wake; and as for "motions," the Reformed Parliament would furnish forth a bigger pension-list than the Pensioned Parliament itself.

After the manner in which Sir JOHN's circumstance have been spoken of, there can be no indelicacy in approaching the topic. Still we shall only remark, that the *Chronicle* was indiscreet in stating that Sir JOHN had spent a moderate patrimony in contested elections; and we suspect that if a worn-out veteran's widow, or a disabled artisan, had pleaded, not embarrassment but destitution, the answer at the War or any other Office would have been, that distress would not of itself entitle any one to a pension.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in the course of his speech, was so stimulated by the worst of counsellers, fear and anger, that he read, to insinuate

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censure of the Tory Governments, a list of pensions for civil services from the Finance Accounts. The readers of the *Spectator*'s "Practical Measures" need not be told our opinions of the Pension System, or of the laws and rules by which it is regulated: but all these pensions, as Lord JOHN must know, were granted by rule, without respect to the individual or to circumstances. A man holding a certain office, was entitled, at the expiration of a certain time, to a retiring-allowance of a certain amount. The enormous expense of this system we have expounded in elaborate detail, and raised our voice against it. Whenever Lord JOHN will attempt its reform, he may depend upon all the support we can give him. But no mortal gifted with ordinary logic would ever dream of comparing an established allowance of this kind with such an irregular and discreditable affair as the MONTEAGLE job.

It is alleged both in and out of the House, that the Tories have perpetrated jobs as bad as the one they are now attacking. As far as regards its impudent irregularity, the fact may be questioned, for the Tories had more skill and more regard to appearances: in an abstract moral sense, no doubt they have, and very many too. But in judging of actions, regard must be had to the whole circumstances of the case. In the palmy days of Toryism, public opinion was of a much lower kind; the Civil List, in law and in fact, was a fund granted to the Crown—that is, to the Ministry, to dispose of at pleasure; its recipients were kept secret; and the Tories made no pretensions to purity, or ever affected to deny that they used the powers of Government for the purposes of influence. But what was fitting in a Tory is unnatural in a Reform Ministry. The irregularities of men of the world are passed as such, but the gorge rises at the profligacy of the hypocrite: nor is the matter mended when he attempts to justify his vices by an example which he has spent in his life and made his fortune in denouncing. Upon this point the *Chronicle* on Thursday was wroth and rash—

"The Tory Pension-list—that black and polluted record of delinquency—has not been effaced from the public memory. By no one was it ever yet perused who did not at once perceive to what infamous purposes it was made subservient. It is *little* to say that, *in the purchase of Parliamentary support*, it was made instrumental: those purposes became almost legitimate when compared with the detestable use to which they were rendered accessory. The moral sense revolts at their contemplation; and in perusing the catalogue of frail and fair recipients which it exhibits, it is impossible to exclude all idea of the impure service by which they earned their pensions."

It is not for us to dispute all this; but let us ask, who obstinately resisted for years all inquiry into this "black and polluted record of delinquency"? Why, the Whigs. When the revision was forced upon them at last, who screened the Scotch and Irish, the two worst lists of the three? Why, the Whigs. When in Committee of Revision, any attempt was made to search into a matter or strike off a pension, who always supported the "black and polluted record"? The Whigs. And in a proposition too strong for Conservative stomachs, who divided the Committee, and were beaten? Gentle *Chronicle*, the Whigs.

Upon the subject of pensions for Parliamentary or literary merit, a Mr. W. BARRON delivered himself thus—

"Were men to be excluded from the Pension-list because they were Members of that House? Were poets and puny twaddling romance-writers to have pensions, and, because men did their duty in that House successfully, and because they were Members of it, were they not to have pensions?'

On the tone of this it is needless to comment, or on the taste of the assembly to which it could have been addressed. The reasoning may have a reply. Men are *not* excluded from the Pension-list "*because* they are Members of that House;" but it is neither safe nor constitutional to pension them merely *as* Members of that House. A "poet" or a "romance-writer" must have given earnest of his powers to entertain a nation before he stands a chance of a pension. No Ministry would pension an embryo CAMPBELL, or MOORE, or BANIM, as such; but a Member of Parliament is worth buying, even if a fool, or a mere bold faced partisan with no other recommendation than Irish impudence. He has a *vote* to trade with, night after night, and speeches, such as they be; and if Parliamentary services, judged of by the party served, are to be a passport to a pension, Mr. BARRON himself may be entitled to one—specially if, according to Lord MORPETH's reason, he has been lucky enough at school to have a couple of lords for his fags.

In our exposition of the Pension System, we denied *in toto* the propriety of pensions as a rule; suggesting, if there must be any thing, a self-supporting superannuation-fund, with an appeal to Parliament for any peculiar case. Reserving ourselves as to Sir JOHN NEWPORT's deserts, we are glad to see that Sir ROBERT PEEL inclines to this view—

"Notwithstanding what had been said by the noble lord, he still retained the same opinion, that if there were any special or peculiar grounds for rewarding a person who had been engaged in the public service, it would be much better to do so by the consent of Parliament than through the medium of the Crown."

That such cases would be too hardly dealt by, no one need fear who reads the debates, and observes the tenderness uniformly felt for "gentlemen," and the total forgetfulness of tax-payers. But, pension as they would, the direct would be cheaper than the indirect. See—

INDIRECT.

Mr. ELLIS, pension	£1,400
Sir JOHN NEWPORT, pension	1,000
Lord MONTEAGLE, salary	2,000
	— £4,4000

DIRECT.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT	£1,000
Mr. ELLIS.....	1,4000
	— 2,400
Saving by the first course, per annum.....	£2,000

To those who are fond of tracing consequences to their causes, it is impressive and consoling to note how "we still have judgment here"—how treacherous arts "return to plague the inventors." When Lord GLENELG was tricked out of his place, he very prudently claimed his retiring-pension; and his claim filled up the number settled by act of Parliament. When, a few months later, poor SPRING RICE had to be ousted too there was no other way of providing for him but by the job before us. Had the Whigs acted fairly by Lord GLENELG, there would have been a pension for Lord MONTEAGLE; and the Reform Ministry would have been spared this exposure, and, what they care for much more this "heavy blow and great discouragement."—*Spectator*.

STATE OF THE NAVY.

(*From the United Service Gazette.*)

The great length of the debate in the House of Lords, on the motion of Lord Colchester for certain returns connected with the state of the British Navy, and which we have given, as we are accustomed to do all discussions of paramount interest to either service in full, and the crowded state of our columns in other respects, preclude us from entering at length into the discussion this week. Nor indeed, is it necessary, seeing that so many of the facts contained in the speeches of Lord Colchester, Hardwicke, and Colville have already been communicated to our readers through our pages. No attempt on the part of any official possessing the slightest practical knowledge of the subject, was made to contradict the statements comprised in Lord Colchester's exposè; statements, confirmed and supported by the manly and straightforward addresses of the Earl of Hardwicke and Lord Colville. Not a single naval officer, not even a sea-going lord, ventured any attempt to controvert them. Lord Minto had, to be sure got off by rote his last year's speech on the subject *con variazioni*, but not having Mr. Charles Wood at hand to assist him in his *apoggiature*, made a sad mess of the matter; contradicting assertions which were never advanced, and confirming others which he had intended to contradict. To one part of his text, however his lordship sticks with the most edifying pertinacity. He protests, in spite of the positive assertions of the Duke of Wellington to the contrary, that England is in a state of most profound transquillity; that we have not, nor have had any war in Canada; that our operations in India have been of the most pacific description; that we are not going to war with the Chinese; that British commerce stands in no need of protection in South America; and that the British flag continues to be revered and respected in all parts of the world! The most instructive and entertaining portion of the debate was, however, the short and pithy conversation which took place between Lord Ellenborough, Lord Minto, and Lord Melbourne, on the subject of Admiral Fleming, and the professional qualifications which in the opinion of Lords Melbourne and Minto, do not constitute an officer's claim to "honour and emolument." In answer to an inquiry, provoked by Lord Minto's extravagant eulogiums on Admiral Fleming, on the part of Lord Ellenborough, as to whether the gallant Admiral "had ever been engaged with the enemy." Lord Minto after much fencing and evasion, in the course of which the querist held his lordship to the point, was compelled to confess, that he "did not know!" Verily, if he had performed any very extraordinary exploits, Admiral Fleming must have contrived to have hidden his light most completely under a bushel, since his own prime friend, relative, and patron, had never heard of his fame. Feeling the ridiculous position in which his colleague had placed himself, Lord Melbourne came to his rescue, with a volunteer opinion that he did not consider fighting by any means the chief business of either a soldier or sailor. Irritated by the roars of laughter to which this very candid confession naturally gave rise, his lordship, in reference to a further remark of Lord Ellenborough, did not scruple to record his opinion, and, of course, that of his Government, "fighting with distinction does not entitle officers, in either service, to places of honour or emolument!!" We have here a key to the treatment which the army and navy have experienced from the present Government, from the first month of their accession to power to the present time; and the insulting and vexatious contempt for their feelings and interests in regard to the Naval and Military Commission and its report, which they have all along manifested. The only thing wanting to make Lord Melbourne's confession complete, was his acknowledgment, that the only title to places of honour or emolument in these days, is the polling-booth at an election, or the landing-place of the back stairs of a government office.

HORRIBLE TRAGEDY AT DUNKERTON.

(*From the Bath Herald of Saturday.*)

About nine o'clock last night, a frightful tragedy took place in the peaceful village of Dunkerton, near this city, the residence of the Rev. C. Bampfylde, rector of that place. From information collected on the spot, it appears that about eight o'clock last night a shoemaker, named Silcox, about 35 years of age, and a long resident in the place, called at the Rectory House upon Thomas Jordan and his wife, who were left in charge of the house during the temporary absence of the reverend owner, who has been staying a short time in Bath. The pretence was ostensibly to take the measure of Jordan and his wife, he (Silcox) having stated that he had lost their measure. He remained standing for nearly an hour, notwithstanding he was repeatedly invited to take a seat. His conversation with the two servants abovenamed, and their son, was of the most friendly nature until about nine o'clock, when he was asked to partake of a little elder wine. At this moment, on a sudden, without any provocation, in a paroxysm of frenzy, he flew upon Jordan, whom he assailed with some heavy iron instrument, supposed to be a hatchet, but which has not yet been found. The wounds inflicted are 13 in number, and of a frightful description—the jaw is severed in two places, and the back of the head smashed and shattered in a most horrible manner. He next attacked the wife, whom he dragged into a passage adjoining the kitchen, where it appears, from the condition of the poor woman's body when found, a violent struggle must have taken place, her left arm being broken, the thumb of her right had nearly severed, a great number of cuts upon her head and face, and quantities of the hair of her head being pulled out by main force, and scattered over the passage. The last, a lad about 13 years old, contrived to evade the murderer's attack, and secreted himself in Mr. Bampfylde's study beneath a large easy chair. The ruffian entered the room after his late murderous assault upon the parents of the boy, being without a light, he groped about the room in search of his victim, but, fortunately for the boy's situation, he missed him. Silcox then procured a light, and went over the whole of the upper part of the house, and on descending the staircase near the study, the candle was extinguished by the wind. The lad hearing him descend, and fearing that he was going to relight the candle, rushed out into the yard, and with the greatest presence of mind unbolted the door which Silcox must have himself previously fastened, and had nearly escaped unhurt, when his savage assailant followed him, and came sufficiently near to inflict a severe wound with some sharp instrument in the back The poor fellow was not so much hurt as to impede his flight, and he escaped, instantly collecting by his cries of murder, all the cottagers in the neighbourhood. Silcox, it is reported, went then to his sister's, a resident in the village, and had a conversation of some length with her, in which he told her that he had just committed a most frightful crime, and that she would never see him alive again. In the interim the inhabitants had apprised Mr. Wm. Keeling, the high-constable for the hundred of Wellow, of the atrocious attempts of this ruffian. Mr. Keeling proceeded now to the house of Silcox, where he resided with his mother and stepfather. The high constable was attended by several other men, and was himself armed with one of Mr. Bampfylde's pistols, loaded only with powder, one of the attendants having the other, which was loaded with ball. Mr. Keeling, with great courage, entered the house, and finding the ruffian armed with a ponderous iron instrument used in the shoe-trade and known by the name of an iron foot, and prepared to act in the offensive, he fired his pistol. The savage fellow, however, finding no injury from the pistol, aimed a dreadful blow with the above instrument at the constable, which passed through his hat, but, happily, did not injure his head very much. Silcox had just, prior to the assault on the constable, attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat, but it is supposed that the sudden entry of the constable prevented him from completing his purpose. In the confusion which ensued from the constable's being disabled for the moment, and the necessary attentions which were paid to him, the villain escaped. As soon as the constable was sufficiently recovered to pursue, which was in a few minutes, he and his assistants traced the villains steps towards the church, where they found him floating on the water. On being dragged to land, he was found quite dead, with his throat partly cut, and his right ear perforated in ten places with one of his own awls. The body was then moved to the church, where it awaits the coroner's inquest. Silcox was a single man, above the middle stature, and of great muscular power, and previous to this diabolical deed bore a very fair character. Mr. Budgett, surgeon of Ashwick, who, with his lady, was passing by the Swan Inn at the time that the news had reached that place, repaired to the house and paid every attention to the poor boy; who we are happy to say, is not in any particular danger from his wound. Mr. Bayntun, of Laura Place, Bath, having been sent for gave all the aid in his power, in conjunction with Mr. Budgett, to the two other sufferers; but, from the horrible extent of the injuries which they had sustained there is no hope whatever of their recovery.

SUPPOSED EXEMPTION OF LIGHT INFANTRY REGIMENTS FROM SERVING IN INDIA.

Our friend and correspondent G. L. S., on whose letter we offered a very short comment in our *Gazette* of the 25th ult. (No. 367) is dissatisfied. We publish his letter in the proper place, and shall only submit a few further remarks.

We said—"The excuse or reason for *not* sending Fusilier, *Light Infantry*, Rifles, and *Highland* regiments (to India) is wanting, if such a decision was ever taken; for we think that nearly all the 70's, including three or four Highland or Scotch regiments, *were raised expressly for India*, viz. from 71st to 78th, we believe. The Scotch Brigade, or 94th, was also there; and as for the Light Infantry corps, the institution itself is modern, but the 13th Light Infantry was sent to Bengal eighteen years ago!"

His letter proves there was *no reason*, though he still argues for the fact that the decision was taken; while we have proved that in regard to the Highland regiments it could not be, as several of them had been raised expressly for India; and on further inquiry the case is even stronger than we imagined. The 42d is the only old Highland regiment that has not been in India. The 79th, when first raised in 1778, was called the Royal Liverpool Volunteers; the 91st had no particular title that we can trace, till they became the Argyleshire Regiment, subsequent to 1809; the same of the 92d, and 93d;—but, on the other hand the 71st, 73d, 74th, 76th, 77th, 78th, all Highland regiments (and *kilted* when in Europe), were raised expressly for India from 1775 to 1778: some of them have since ceased to be Highlanders. No regiment can wear the kilt in India. The 81st and 84th were originally Highland regiments also, though the latter had ceased to be such when sent to India.

If there were any reason for not sending these troops to India, which was all we ever doubted, we have shown that in practice the Highlanders were not excluded, as we have now traced six Highland regiments to have been raised expressly for that service; and with regard to the Rifle corps, the 60th was originally the Royal Americans, a condemned regiment reserved only for the American and West India colonies; the 95th only became a Rifle regiment in 1800, and was reserved for our European wars as the only one we then had of that arm. The 70th only became a Rifle corps in the year 1825.*

Of Light Infantry corps there are but eight; and as they were only made such since Peace, we conceive that one of them (the 13th) having gone out to Bengal in 1823, destroys the belief that they were intentionally excluded from that service, particularly as this very corps was made Light Infantry when they were about to embark. The 51st is going, and G. L. S. says the 90th also: that will make three.

A paragraph in our own journal very recently, we believe, announced that New South Wales was to be the depot or the intermediate stage for Indian regiments. We never said exclusively so—our words were, "We have understood, &c." and we have not even time to refer to the paper in which it appeared as a new resolve; but all the recent transfers from the Mauritius and Ceylon to India were emergent, in consequence of war, or the apprehensions of war, viz. 9th, 18th, and 94th, which has, in fact, given three extra regiments to the Indian establishment, beyond the number sanctioned by the Charter: the 16th, 54th, and 6th will be ordered home in consequence. Formerly all the Eastern stations supplied reliefs to India.

In conclusion, as one Fusilier corps out of five is now in India, and two of the five are but recent creations, we must still think that Fusilier corps are not excluded practically from Indian service, which is all we contended; the 87th is now at the Mauritius also; and, after all, the only case of absolute exclusion appears to be the 60th and Rifle corps, which should clearly be an exception, as we have no others for service in Europe, or in our own colonies. Should the six corps he names—the 25th, 27th, 35th, 90th, 91st, and 95th, proceed from Ceylon, the Mauritius, and the Cape to India, as he assumes they *will*, it will not overturn any theory, *we* have framed, but further prove what we have already asserted, that the Fusiliers, Highland, and Light Infantry regiments are not excluded from that service, as we *shall* then have an illustration the more of the fact. To exclude them would, in fact, exclude one-fourth of the Army from India, which even if the proofs before did not deny, we should think absurd and unjust. As for matter of opinion, we have nothing to say with such facts before us.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

* In 1825 the corps changed from the "Royal American Regiment" to the "Duke of York's Rifles," and in 1831 again changed to the "King's Own Rifles."

Lord Brougham has left London for Paris, and his friends do not expect his return for two months. It will be recollected that he told the Lords last session, he would not be wasting his time there another spring, but go away and return when the Lords had some business before them.

On dit that Sir Robert Peel has expressed high displeasure at the insubordination of Sir Frederick Pollock and Sir William Follett on the Privilege question, and intimated that he must have those about him, when in office, on whom he can depend.

Prince George of Cambridge has been appointed to a supernumerary Lieutenant-Colonelcy in the Twelfth or Prince of Wales's Royal Lancers.

It is rumoured that Lord Minto will sail in a few weeks, in the Pique frigate, to succeed Lord Auckland as Governor-General of India.

The vote of the House of Commons on the annuity to Prince Albert has had its influence on the Commission of the French Chamber of Deputies charged to examine the 20,000*l.* a year for the Duke of Nemours. If the sum is not to be diminished, a clause is to be inserted, it is said, limiting the provision to the death of the King. When the demise of Louis Philippe takes place, the private property of the Orleans family goes to all the sons, independent of the Duke of Orleans, provided for as King, and of the Duc d'Aumale, heir of the Conde property. The *Commerce* estimates the Duc de Nemours' share at 2,000,000*l.* sterling. Madame Adelaide, the King's sister, is said to possess 160,000*l.* a year revenue. Some of the papers plead that in Prussia the King's landed property suffices for family expenses, and nothing was taken from the public purse at the marriage of the Princesses.

After a long trial, which excited very little interest, the examination of witnesses showing merely the same facts which appeared on the last trial, the Court of Peers on Friday came to a decision, and sentenced Blanqui to the punishment of death, Quignot and Elie to fifteen years' imprisonment, five more to ten years', two to seven, and sixteen others to five years' imprisonment. On hearing the sentence of death, the wife of Blanqui hastened to the Tuileries. As the King consented to receive her on Saturday, it is supposed that the sentence of death will be commuted.

The *Journal des Débats* of Saturday declare that the alliance is not yet consummated between England and Russia. The *Courier Francais* states that M. Cunin Gridaine, the Minister of Commerce, declared publicly on Thursday that England had positively rejected the proposals of M. Brunow. This is the third time that these same propositions of M. Brunow have been accepted and rejected, according to the Paris press.

The journals from the Northern departments of France continue to be filled with details of the effects of the high winds. They state that last Friday the steeple of the church of Honneches, near Cambrai, was blown down. At Marcoing two houses were totally demolished, and several others unroofed. At Villers-Guislain numerous stables, barns, and other out-buildings suffered a similar fate. At Masnieres the newly-built spinning-mill of Messrs. Briere, Vallee, and Co. was completely unroofed, the gales rolling up the plates of zinc as if they were sheets of paper.

PORT MAHON.—In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord Londonderry asked for some explanation of the occupation of King's Islet, in Port Mahon, by the French? Lord Clarendon said, that a warehouse and hospital on the islet had been leased by the Spanish Government to the United States; who were allowed, strangely enough, to assign the lease to the French Government, who used the station as a depot for coals. He thought there could be no objection to their using it for that purpose. Lord Aberdeen wished for some security that the French would not convert it into a military station. Lord Clarendon had no apprehension that the French, in contravention of the lease, would erect military buildings on the islert.

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